DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
OTTAWA.

Historical & Medical Serials

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

THIRD CONFERENCE

OF

FRUIT GROWERS OF THE DOMINION OF CANADA

HELD AT

OTTAWA, FEBRUARY 14, 1912

OTTAWA
GOVERNMENT PRINTING BUREAU
1912.

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The Delegates, Officials, Pressmen and some of the visitors to the Third Dominion Conference of Fruit Growers. The Honorable Martin Burrell, Minister of Agriculture in the Central Foreground.

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THIRD CONFERENCE

OF

DOMINION FRUIT GROWERS

Held under the Auspices of the Dominion Department of Agriculture

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OTTAWA, WEDNESDAY, February 14, 1912.
2 p.m.

FIRST SESSION.

Mr. J. A. RUDDICK, Dairy and Cold Storage Commissioner, occupied the chair, and after calling the conference to order, he said:—

It appears to be my duty, as head of that branch of the Department of Agriculture, under whose auspices this conference is held, to preside at this the opening session. I assure you that I am very much pleased to do so, and I appreciate the honour that belongs to the office.

During the seven years that I have been officially connected with the fruit growing industry, I have come in contact with a large number of growers in all parts of Canada, and while I have thus been enlarging my circle of acquaintances, I hope and trust that at the same time I have increased the number of my personal friends. (Applause.) The work has always been one of a great deal of pleasure to me on that account. The branch of the Department of Agriculture, of which I have the honour to be the chief officer, divided as it is into the divisions of dairying, fruit, cold storage and extension of markets, touches the fruit growing industry at many different points. In addition to the regular work of the fruit division, the work of the cold storage division and of the extension of markets division, dealing as they do with questions of transportation and storage, the exploitation of new markets and the introduction of new products into old markets, are all matters of considerable importance to the fruit growers. The trial shipments of cold storage apples in 1909-10 and the successful shipment of peaches to the old country during the past two seasons are instances of what I mean. These are things which are of interest to the fruit growers and connect the work of the Dairy and Cold Storage branch with the fruit growing industry in many ways.

I will not take up your time enlarging further on these points, but will proceed with the business of the conference. This is the third conference of its kind. The first one was held in 1890. It was organized by the Montreal Horticultural Society, one of the oldest horticultural societies in Canada. The Department of Agriculture appropriated a sum of money to pay the expenses of that conference. There were twenty delegates representing most of the provinces. The second conference was held at Ottawa on March 20, 21 and 22, 1906. It will be a matter of interest to state that in looking over the lists of delegates to the three conferences, I find that there are just two men who have attended them all as official delegates, Mr. Robert Brodie and Mr. R. W. Shepherd, both from the province of Quebec.

I had the pleasure of attending the opening session of the first conference although not in the capacity of a delegate. I happened to be attending another conference which met in the same hall.

I presume you are familiar with the organization of these conferences. The Department of Agriculture agrees to pay the expenses of a certain number of delegates from each province. Each Provincial Fruit Growers' Association is invited to appoint a definite number of delegates to represent their interests, and the Agricultural Colleges and the Provincial Departments of Agriculture are also represented. In this conference there is also representation from the Ontario Apple Shippers' Association, from the United Fruit Companies of Nova Scotia and the Co-operative Societies in Ontario and British Columbia, making altogether forty-two delegates, as follows:—

LIST OF DELEGATES TO THE THIRD DOMINION CONFERENCE OF FRUIT GROWERS

ONTARIO.

Representing the Fruit Growers' Association—

Harold Jones, Maitland.
Walter Dempsey, Trenton.
R. W. Grierson, Oshawa.
L. A. Hamilton, Lorne Park.
A. Onslow, Niagara-on-the-Lake.
W. H. Bunting, St. Catharines.
A. W. Peart, Burlington.
D. Johnson, Forest.
Robert Thompson, St. Catharines.

From the Department of Agriculture—

P. W. Hodgetts, Director, Fruit Branch.

From the Ontario Agricultural College—

Prof. J. W. Crow.

Ontario Apple Shippers' Association—

L. K. Shourd, Wellington.
M. C. Smith, Burlington.

Co-operative Associations—

Elmer Lick, Oshawa.

QUEBEC

Representing Quebec Pomological Society—

Robt. Brodie, Westmount.
R. W. Shepherd, Como.
N. E. Jack, Chateauguay Basin.
J. C. Chapais, St. Denis (en bas).
Chas. T. Byers, Abbotsford.

From Department of Agriculture—

Solynie Roy, St. Valier.

Macdonald College—

Prof. Saxby Blair.

Oka Agricultural College—

Father Leopold, La Trappe.

NOVA SCOTIA.

Representing the Fruit Growers' Association—

R. J. Messenger, Bridgetown.
A. C. Starr, Port Williams.
J. N. Chute, Berwick.
F. A. Chipman, Nictaux West.
S. C. Parker, Berwick.

Representing United Fruit Companies—

C. O. Allen, Kentville.

From Department of Agriculture—

M. Cumming, Secretary for Agriculture.

From Agricultural College, Truro—

Prof. P. J. Shaw.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Representing B. C. Fruit Growers' Association—

W. F. Somers, Victoria.
R. C. Abbott, Mission City.
R. H. Agur, Summerland.
Jas. Rooke, Grand Forks.
W. A. Pitcairn, Kelowna.
Thos. Abriel, Nakusp.

From Department of Agriculture—

R. M. Winslow, Provincial Horticulturist.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

Representing Fruit Growers' Association—

A. C. Parker, Oromocto.
C. N. Vroom, St. Stephen.

From Department of Agriculture—

A. G. Turney, Fredericton.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

Representing Fruit Growers' Association—

J. A. Annear, Lower Montague.
A. E. Dewar, Charlottetown.

From Department of Agriculture—

Theodore Ross, Secretary for Agriculture.

MANITOBA.

Agricultural College, Winnipeg—

Prof. F. W. Broderick.

These are official delegates to the Conference and I am going to ask them to sit on the right hand side of the hall, and the visitors to take the other side. I think that will facilitate matters, and help on the work of the Conference.

THE DISPLAY OF APPLES.

I would like to call your attention to this exhibit of apples which you see behind me. When I first thought of making this exhibit, I started out with rather more modest ideas than were finally adopted. It seemed to me that it would be a good thing for the fruit growers from the different provinces to see the same varieties of apples grown in different parts of the country. Letters were written in July inviting the representatives of the different Provinces to prepare a collection of half a dozen leading varieties. That was enlarged upon later, for when I mentioned the matter to the Minister he directed me to take the necessary steps to make a large display. At the same time, I thought it would be interesting to secure some of the leading varieties from Oregon, Washington and Virginia, and I expected to have some from Tasmania, but they are not available at this season. The apples were collected by the representatives from the different provinces and have been paid for by the department. They were all repacked here at Ottawa. In doing that we have had the assistance of Mr. Jas. Gibb, an expert packer from British Columbia. Of our own staff Messrs. Carey, Burgess and Lemieux have had a hand in it. I think they deserve credit for the way in which they have put them up. (Applause.)

The next duty that I have to perform is a very pleasant one, and that is to call upon the Honourable Martin Burrell, Minister of Agriculture for the Dominion of Canada, to deliver the address of welcome.

ADDRESS OF WELCOME.

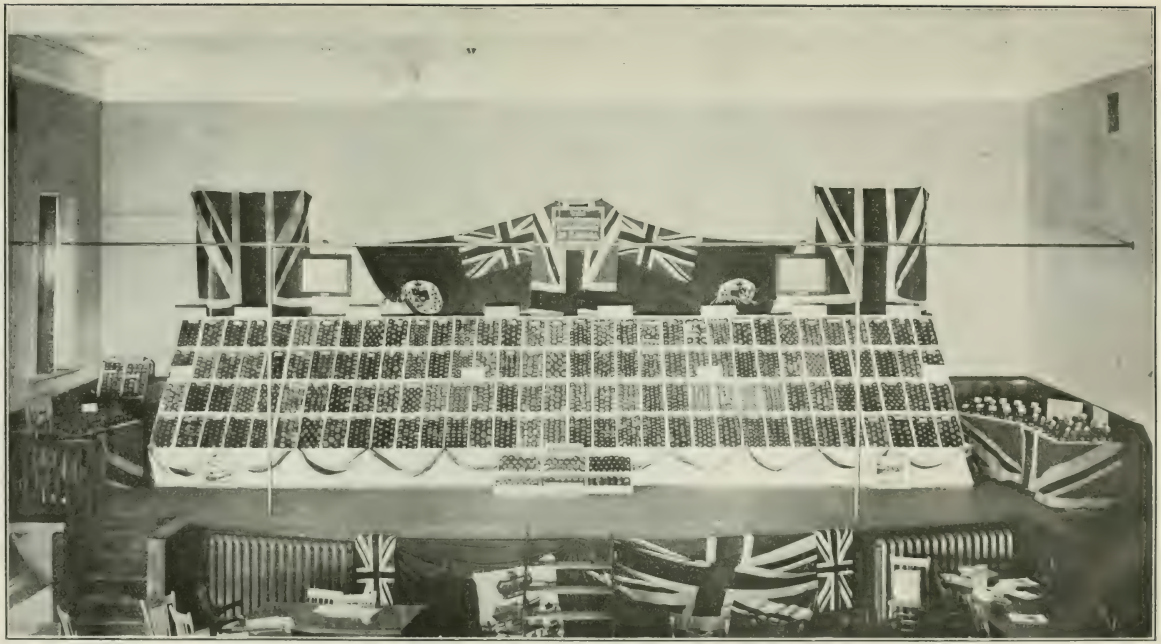
Honourable Martin Burrell,
Minister of Agriculture.

Mr. Chairman and Brother Fruit Growers:

I need hardly say that in bidding you welcome to Ottawa at this third conference of the Fruit Growers of Canada, I do so with the very heartiest appreciation of what the fruit growing industry means for Canada. I bid you welcome with sincere pleasure because I see here not only a great many familiar faces,—men with whom I have been associated in horticultural work for something like twenty-eight years, but others who are engaged in the work from all parts of Canada. It would be a very strange thing indeed if I did not, as a practical fruit grower during all these years, both east and west, have a very unusual feeling at a conference of this kind. I have attended a great number of conventions during the last ten years, and I am not going to make any individual comparisons. That would be a dangerous thing for a Minister of Agriculture to do, as you can understand, and I see a few of my live stock friends in the room, so I am going to be careful of what I say, but I do say that it gives me very great pleasure to see you all here at this third conference of the fruit growers of Canada.

We recognized six years ago when my predecessor, the Honourable Sydney Fisher, called the last conference that we were beginning to feel that fruit growing was in a very true sense a national industry, and that in many respects it had truly national aspects, and further, that it was absolutely necessary, in the commercial interests of the fruit growers of Canada, that there should be some systematic course of action taken to insure uniformity of method in the whole industry, east and west and centre, so that it might be put on a footing that would work out to the profit of the fruit growers and would inure to the benefit of the whole of Canada.

I do not think it is in order for me to make a speech. My own idea is that at a conference such as this, the least time taken up in speech making, the better—that is set speeches. What you all want as business men, is the introduction of various



The Display of Apples at the Conference.

questions, in the shape of resolutions or otherwise, that are absolutely vital to the proper progress of your own particular business and these motions or resolutions can be discussed by men who are keenly interested in the welfare of this industry. Such discussion will be of infinitely more value than any number of set speeches. You can quite understand that the government in defraying the expenses of the delegates desires that this conference should result in real benefit to the industry.

I need hardly say that a great deal of progress has been made in Canada during the last six years. I understand that one of the items on the programme this afternoon is five or ten minute speeches from some delegate from each of the provinces who will doubtless be able to inform the meeting on the progress of fruit culture in his particular province. After hearing these short addresses, we will get a fairly good idea of what is being done in the whole country and that will be very interesting. I would suggest that this is largely and principally a meeting for business purposes and represents the commercial side rather than the scientific side of your particular work. When you bring your resolutions forward, I would suggest that you endeavour to crystalize them into such shape that they will not only represent your own thought but that you will also make them, as far as possible, reasonable, and if you have any suggestions to make to the government—and I never knew of a convention that did not have a lot to make—that you will put them in such shape that they will be for the benefit of the people as a whole.

I have glanced over the resolutions and I see that you have a great many subjects to discuss, such as uniformity of boxes and altering the size of packages. I know as a practical grower and shipper of fruit that these things are of great importance and it is necessary to look into them very carefully, and I hope that not only the delegates from my own province but from the other provinces will give these matters thorough consideration. You should work along lines that will make for the betterment of the whole industry, enlarging its scope of usefulness and make Canada an orchard even in a very much larger sense than it is at present.

I have reason as Minister of Agriculture, of which horticulture forms a very important part, to congratulate the fruit growers of Canada on the notable progress they have made not only along the special scientific lines of their calling,—and it requires a great deal of scientific application to make a success of it—but also along the lines of practical commercial work. This progress has been made to such an extent that it has given Canada, in the markets of the world, a far more favourable reputation than she has ever had.

You can understand that during the busy session, it will be impossible for me to absent myself altogether from the work of the House and other work that necessarily comes before a minister, but I will endeavour to be with you as much as possible.

Let me say again that I am delighted to see you all here and I hope very heartily that you will have not only a very pleasant time while in Ottawa, but that you will have a successful and profitable time as fruit growers at this third conference of the Dominion. (Applause.)

The CHAIRMAN.—I had thought that we would have the responses from the delegates, beginning with the east, in the same way as these apples are arranged, and that I would ask the Prince Edward Island delegates to speak first. They are very modest however, and have declined the honour. I then asked the British Columbia delegates to speak first, but they seem to have developed an unusual modesty in matters relating to fruit growing, and therefore I am going to call on old Ontario to make the first reply to the Address of Welcome.

REPLIES TO ADDRESS OF WELCOME.

ONTARIO.

L. A. Hamilton, Lorne Park.

Mr. Chairman, Honourable Mr. Burrell and Gentlemen:

It was a custom in old Ontario when I was a young man and took a great deal more interest in weddings than I do now, to select the youngest member of the wedding party to make the principal speech on that occasion. I presume it is on that ground that in this conference to-day, coupling together the provinces of Canada, that the lot has fallen to me, perhaps the youngest fruit grower in the province of Ontario, to respond to the address of welcome which has been so ably delivered by the Honourable Minister of Agriculture. Although I am one of the youngest members, still I do not say I am the least enthusiastic. I have only had ten years' experience in this industry and we know that is only a beginning in an industry which covers such a large ground as fruit growing.

I wish to say, Mr. Chairman, that it is a great pleasure for us to assemble here to-day, and we feel under a deep debt of gratitude to the Honourable Minister and to the Government of Canada for enabling us to come from the Atlantic to the Pacific to discuss, and if possible formulate, plans that will be for the betterment of the work that is so close to our hearts. I am sure I voice the sentiments of those who are here when I say that we wish to thank the Prime Minister and his government for the deep interest they already manifest in the agricultural interests of Canada, not only in the direct agricultural interests of Canada, but also in that interest which is not secondary and which should not take a secondary place in connection with the agricultural interests of Canada, the fruit growing interest, also for the interest they are manifesting in connection with the construction of good roads to enable us to get our good fruit to the markets. I say, sir, we are under a deep debt of gratitude to the Government of Canada for what they have already done and what they propose to do in connection with the interest with which we are engaged. I desire to read a resolution that was adopted at the Ontario Fruit Growers' Association in Toronto because it not only voices my own individual opinion, but it voices the opinion of the fruit growers of Ontario: 'Resolved that this association wish to congratulate the Honourable Premier of the Dominion on his selection of the Honourable Martin Burrell as Minister of Agriculture for Canada, believing that no choice could have been made from the members of the House that would have been so satisfactory to the fruit growers of the country, and trust that this is the recognition also of the vast and rapidly growing importance of the fruit growing industry which we hope will receive even greater consideration at the hands of the government than heretofore, and we also wish to congratulate Mr. Burrell upon his selection as the first commercial fruit grower to occupy what we consider one of the most important positions in the Cabinet of Canada.' (Applause.)

We have before us a collection of apples grown in different parts of Canada. If we undertook to say what development has been made in fruit growing in the different provinces since this conference was held in the city of Ottawa some six years ago, I am afraid no further business would be transacted during the afternoon. Any person who saw the exhibition that was made in connection with the Ontario Fruit Growers' Convention, a short time ago, at Toronto, would understand that it would be impossible in the space of time allotted, to begin to tell of the great advancement that has been made along lines of fruit growing in the province of Ontario. One could wish that every fruit man who is present had had an opportunity of seeing the exhibit of the Ontario fruit growers in the city of Toronto four years ago and of seeing the exhibition there last autumn of fruit grown in the year 1911. With respect to this motto which I see before me, 'The Fruit Growing Possibilities of Canada are Unsurpassed,' I think nothing stronger could be said than that and I believe in it implicitly.

I do not believe that we in Ontario dwell as fully on the subject as our brothers do who are on the Pacific coast. I remember some years ago when I was employed with the Canadian Pacific railway that I wrote a pamphlet on the opening of the line of the Canadian Pacific and spoke about the height of the Rocky mountains in British Columbia. I shall never forget the president and manager of that corporation saying: 'Did you say the highest mountain there was only 12,000 feet? I have a pamphlet here from the Great Northern Railway, Mr. Jim Hill's railway, on the other side of the line, and he demonstrates clearly that his mountains are over 13,000 feet. You must take that pamphlet back and correct it. British Columbia can take second place to no spot upon this continent.' (Applause.) That, I thought, is the attitude of the British Columbia fruit growers, and I am proud that they take that stand. They are doing a magnificent work. They know what they have got and they are not ashamed to tell the world.

Mr. Chairman, I thank you for this opportunity, and I thank you, sir, again for the welcome you have extended to us at this conference. I hope it will be profitable and enable those of us who have come from one end of Canada to the other to go back with new ideas and determined to work together as one country, sinking our provincial differences and acting together in the face of the world so that we may say that this Canada of ours can produce the grandest apples that are grown out of doors. (Applause).

NOVA SCOTIA.

R. J. Messenger, Bridgetown.

Mr. Chairman, Honourable Mr. Burrell and Gentlemen:

A wager was made in London by a gentleman who said that he could stand on the end of London bridge and offer sovereigns to the passers-by for a shilling, and that he would do that for an hour without having a purchaser. He did so, and the hour was almost up when a man came along and gave him a shilling for a sovereign and started off. He had not gone very far before he went into a shop and changed that sovereign and found it was good. He started back, but the man with the sovereigns had gone.

Away over on the eastern side of North America, there is a little wart that is called Nova Scotia, and it has been overlooked. People have been flocking by Nova Scotia and through Nova Scotia for a number of years, and they have not yet seen the gold, even some Nova Scotians have gone away feeling that the sovereign was not what is was supposed to be, but they are now beginning to find out that it is pure gold. It is true we are producing apples in Nova Scotia, and I think we will be able to show you in a few years that Nova Scotia must not be ignored. In fact we had a promise not very long ago from headquarters, that Nova Scotia would receive all the attention after this and the other provinces would have to look out for themselves, and from what we have seen during the last two or three years, we feel sure the other provinces will look after themselves.

I want to say a word of greeting to the delegates from the other provinces. Although we are away over at the other side of the continent, we have a warmth of feeling towards you. We want to feel that we are all working with the same end in view. We want to feel that Ontario is going to put up apples in 96-quart barrels, and we want to feel that the size of our apples in Nova Scotia will be popular in the rest of the Dominion. As soon as we introduce our resolutions, we know they will pass, and of course, when you introduce your resolutions, we will help you pass them. I know that feeling of unanimity is going to be present throughout our meetings.

I want to thank the Honourable Mr. Burrell, Minister of Agriculture, for calling us together, and I want to thank him for his warm welcome this afternoon. I know I am voicing the feelings of our delegates from Nova Scotia as well as the delegates from all over Canada when I thank him heartily.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

R. H. Agur, Summerland,
President, B. C. Fruit Growers' Association.

Mr. Chairman, Honourable Mr. Burrell and Gentlemen:

As one of the delegates from the Pacific coast province it gives me pleasure to say a few words in response to the address of welcome which was couched in such pleasant terms. I find myself in a similar position to that of the Honourable Mr. Monk as he expressed it when addressing a Winnipeg audience at a banquet many years ago. He said on the occasion of making his first political speech, the speaker on the opposite side, who was an old campaigner and a hard hitter, was handing out some very hot stuff, and when he got up to make his reply about all he could do was to hold on to the Chairman's desk, and it is very difficult for me to find just the right word to say on this occasion. If I should say that we in British Columbia are growing the finest fruit in Canada, we would hear from Quebec. If I remember correctly the former Minister of Agriculture stated that they grew the finest apples in Canada in Quebec—(Applause)—and there were protests from Ontario and the other provinces. There is no doubt you are growing in the eastern provinces apples fit for a king, and I understand one of the eastern provinces is growing fruit for King George's table. (Applause).

It is not so much the question of growing the very finest fruit, because each province is growing fruit of sufficiently high grade to hold any trade once secured, but the point is for the fruit growers of Canada to do away with the great loss that is sustained through bad horticultural methods, bad packing and grading. At the present time we are losing much more than sufficient to pay the interest on the national debt of Canada in this way. I will cite an instance as the difference between good and bad packing. I have learned since I came to the city that in Ontario they 'stove pipe' their apples. I do not know just what that means, we do not know anything about that in British Columbia, but I will give you an instance that occurred in my own province.

A fruit grower pulled up to the curb with a load of apples. An expert packer was standing in front of the grocery window and the apples caught his eye and he walked over to the fruit grower and asked him the price, and he said $1 per box. The expert packer said, 'If you will allow me to pack these apples, they will sell for $1.75.' The fruit grower said that was 'damned nonsense.' The fruit packer said, 'I will wager you $1.75 against one of your boxes, that if you allow me to pack it and place it in this grocery window, my box will sell first at $1.75 as against your box at $1.' This was arranged and they waited the result. A lady shortly afterwards came into the store and asked the grocer the price of the apples and he said '$1.75 for this box and $1 for that,' and the lady said, 'Send up to the house the $1.75 box,' and she added the remark that it was the finest fruit she had seen in a long time.

I only mention this instance to show you the importance of packing so as to give them the finest possible appearance. It is said in British Columbia that we are good people but we cannot see over the mountains. We do have lucid moments and when we selected Mr. Martin Burrell as our representative for Yale and Cariboo, we were very much awake. (Applause.) Our hearts are large like our trees and warm like our climate and we have no jealousies, and we extend to you in the east a welcome and we will co-operate in connection with the holding of these national markets, the great northwestern provinces, and I hope at some early date a large delegation of fruit growers will come to British Columbia so as to see how we grow this fine fruit. (Applause.)

QUEBEC.

R. W. Shepherd, Como.

Mr. Chairman, Honourable Mr. Burrell, Ladies and Gentlemen:

I regret very much that I was called upon just a few minutes ago and asked to reply to the Address of Welcome. The gentleman who was deputed by our society, Professor Blair of Macdonald College, Ste. Anne de Bellevue, would have given you a much more able address. I feel highly honoured to be called upon to represent our association. I was quite surprised when the Chairman told you a few minutes ago that Mr. Brodie and I were the oldest members of this conference and the only two men who had attended all three conferences.

Quebec is the oldest province of Canada. There is no doubt apples were first grown in the province of Quebec, and no doubt the founder of Montreal, Maisonneuve, planted apple trees when he arrived there several hundred years ago. The fruit growers of Quebec are very modest about it. We have no mountains 15,000 feet high. We are humble and meek but we have grown apples for a good many years. I am not saying that our province has taken the lead in fruit growing. We have some climatic difficulties, but I am pleased to be able to say that we can grow the best table apples in the world. (Applause.)

I remember a few years ago, I had a letter of introduction to my friend, Mr. Agur, who has just addressed you; I also had a letter to Mr. Ricardo, the manager of the Cold Stream ranch, and in walking over to the hotel after lunch, I happened to tell Mr. Agur that I was interested in fruit growing in Quebec, and Mr. Ricardo caught up then and he said, 'Mr. Shepherd is a fruit grower in Quebec, that is where Mr. Fisher says they grow the best apples in the world. They won't believe that in British Columbia.' And I said, 'Mr. Fisher was quite right. We grow the finest eating apples in the world, because where can you get a better apple than the Fameuse of Quebec?'

It gives me a great deal of pleasure to come here representing the province where fruit was first grown in Canada. We come here to learn. It is at conventions such as this that we get the best ideas, and my colleagues from Quebec will bear me out when I say that we come here knowing that we will learn a great deal. I thank you, gentlemen, for your kind hearing. (Applause.)

NEW BRUNSWICK.

A. G. Turney, Fredericton.

Mr. Chairman, Honourable Mr. Burrell and Gentlemen:

I was just speaking to Mr. Winslow, the horticulturist from British Columbia, before the conference opened this afternoon, and he made some reference to the things which we were trying to do in apple growing in New Brunswick, and among other things, he said he thought there was room on the map of Canada for both British Columbia and New Brunswick. I was glad to hear that, because I assure you that we, in the province of New Brunswick, are quite human, and we do not want to have to push anybody off the map.

We are now laying the foundation for an export apple trade. The condition of the apple business in New Brunswick to-day in some way, is not as advanced as it was fifteen or twenty years ago. They were exporting more apples at that time than we are to-day, but we are still exporting apples from New Brunswick. I regret to say we are also compelled to import. We are not really producing enough for our own needs, but we are occupied very busily at the present time in setting about to remedy that condition of affairs, and we expect to plant very extensively for the next ten years. I feel that when the authorities see fit to call another conference, which

I hope will be three years hence, we will be able to come forward and give you a tale of a very great deal of progress.

The speakers who have preceded me made reference to the apples produced in the different provinces and as to their quality. I am not going to say that the apples we produce in New Brunswick are the best in the world, but I am going to say that if the province of New Brunswick was the only province in the Dominion exporting apples, the reputation of Canada would not be lessened. (Applause).

I desire to thank you, Mr. Chairman and the Honourable Mr. Burrell, for the privilege which is ours of being here to-day and to congratulate you upon your appointment as Minister of Agriculture for the Dominion of Canada, an appointment which I assure you gives the fruit growers in New Brunswick a very great deal of pleasure.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

A. E. Dewar, Charlottetown.

Mr. Chairman, Honourable Mr. Burrell and Gentlemen:

Prince Edward Island is the smallest province in the Dominion. It is said by a gentleman down there that Prince Edward was too good to go in with the rest, and they had to put it in a place by itself. It was an advantage in that respect but it also has disadvantages.

We have not made much progress in the fruit business as yet, but we are going to be a factor in the fruit business of Canada. This year we exported apples to Newfoundland, England, and the other provinces, and I think the business is going to go ahead by leaps and bounds. I think we can lead Canada in the growing of small fruits. I do not think there is any province that can turn out small fruit at the cost that we can. We have been promised a car-ferry by the government, and that will permit us to send car-load lots to the market, and when we get that, the small fruit trade of Prince Edward Island will be a very large one.

In the apple business we are going through all the mistakes that you gentlemen have gone through, and we are overcoming them as fast as we can. We are near the British market, and I think we can put our apples on that market cheaper than you can from any other province, and judging from the prices we get, our apples have a good reputation on the other side of the water.

I wish to congratulate the Honourable Minister of Agriculture who was a delegate at the last conference and a worker with whom I had the pleasure of doing business. Judging from the way he conducted business at that conference, I think we have a first class Minister of Agriculture, and one who is entirely in sympathy with the fruit business.

MANITOBA.

Professor F. W. Broderick.

Mr. Chairman, Honourable Minister of Agriculture and Gentlemen:

As a representative of Manitoba and the prairie provinces, it affords me a great deal of pleasure to be present at such a large and representative gathering of the fruit growers of the Dominion of Canada.

Manitoba is not one of the leading fruit growing provinces of the Dominion. We are pleased, however, to have a small exhibit of Manitoba apples. Some of our people are endeavouring to grow apples and are meeting with a very fair degree of success. I am sorry our friend, Mr. Stevenson, is not with us. He is our pioneer apple grower and has been working away at it for a number of years. We are hoping to make progress along these lines; in time, it is possible that Manitoba will be producing apples. We are producing plums and small fruits. Our people have been

making money so very rapidly in growing wheat that horticulture has not made the progress that we hope it will in the future. We are a big consuming province and the people of the west know good fruit, and in that market, there is fruit from all the other provinces, and the very best fruit produced in the Dominion will find a ready market in the west.

It affords me a great deal of pleasure to be here as a representative of the horticultural interests of our prairie provinces, and I wish to thank the Honourable Minister of Agriculture for the pleasure it has given us to be represented here to-day in this large gathering of fruit growers of the Dominion.

The CHAIRMAN.—That concludes the responses to the Address of Welcome, and I am going to ask the Honourable Mr. Fisher to say a word or two to the conference.

ADDRESS.

Honourable SYDNEY FISHER.

Mr. Chairman, Honourable Mr. Burrell and Gentlemen:

I have great pleasure indeed in taking part in this National Conference of Fruit Growers of Canada. I am not much of a fruit grower myself, because the particular part of the province of Quebec from which I come and in which I farm, is not very propitious for fruit growing, but I know what the other parts of the province can do, and I think the exhibit here to-day will bear out the boast I made on that memorable occasion about the apples of the province of Quebec. If you taste the fruit, you will find that what I said was true. I would like to remind you that His Majesty, the King, orders every year for his own particular use, apples from the province of Quebec and from no other province in Canada. (Applause).

I want to congratulate Mr. Burrell on having called this conference, and allow me to congratulate him also on the honour which has been done him in being called to the Ministry of Agriculture which I, together with most of the other farmers in Canada, believe to be the most important portfolio in the Dominion Government. Provided, of course, that a Conservative had to occupy that position, I think Mr. Burrell was the wisest choice possible. (Applause.)

Let me say a word of what I think ought to be the special object of a National Conference of this kind. When these conferences were first called some years ago, it was not with the object or intention of getting hints and information as to our national needs to secure advice and assistance of representative men in the industry throughout the length and breadth of the Dominion, not particularly for the purpose of discussing details of method or of the particular ways in which fruit or any other particular branch of agriculture might best be produced in each particular neighbourhood, but for the purpose of discussing problems of transportation, of marketing and of the possibilities of increasing the production. Papers and addresses are very well but the discussion amongst the delegates is far better and more important, and I trust that this Fruit Growers' Conference will follow that line, and that you, Mr. Burrell, will be able to get from the very representative audience we have here—delegates from all over the Dominion—much information and assistance in the very important work that you have to carry on.

I need not detain you longer. I am happy to be one of such a convention and I trust will be able to participate in it, and I thank you, Mr. Chairman and Mr. Burrell, in asking me to address a few words to the conference. (Applause).

The CHAIRMAN.—The next business before the conference is the appointment of the Striking Committee to nominate the standing committees for the conference. In order to save time, I have selected one delegate from each fruit growing province to form this committee. The following are the names which I propose:—

STRIKING COMMITTEE.

P. W. Hodgetts, Ontario; Robert Brodie, Quebec; A. C. Starr, Nova Scotia; R. H. Agur, British Columbia; C. N. Vroom, New Brunswick; Theodore Ross, Prince Edward Island; M. C. Smith, Ontario Apple Shippers' Association.

I would suggest that this committee meet during the time Mr. McNeill is delivering his address and select the Credential Committee, the Programme Committee and Resolution Committee. The Credential Committee seems to be necessary in order to deal with the question as to what limitations are to be put on the discussions with respect to visitors who are not regular delegates, and whether the visitors shall be allowed to take part in discussions. I do not suppose there will be any question as to whether they shall be allowed to vote. The Programme Committee will deal with the programme that has been outlined and they may approve of it or make any suggestions they see fit. The Resolution Committee will probably be the working committee of the conference, and they will have to deal with all resolutions that come up.

I have now much pleasure in calling upon Mr. McNeill to give his paper on 'Co-operation and Fruit Growing.'

ALEX. MCNEILL, Chief Fruit Division.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen:

I feel honoured this afternoon in being selected to give the opening paper at this conference. This, I believe, is a very important conference, and one that will be called upon to inquire into many important things connected with the fruit industry.

CO-OPERATION AND FRUIT GROWING.

STATISTICS.

Co-operative apple selling in Canada has passed the experimental stage. Its early history would be interesting, but we can consider to-day only present conditions. There are in Canada about 80 co-operative fruit associations, in good standing, distributed as follows:—

Prince Edward Island	1
Nova Scotia	23
Quebec	5
Ontario	42
British Columbia	10

These statistics do not include many informal unions of fruit growers that for all practical purposes are co-operative; indeed, they can be regarded as 'feeders' to the regular co-operative associations.

The statistics of the 1911 output of these societies are not yet completed. It is safe to say, however, that the sales of the co-operative associations this year were sufficiently large to distinctly influence the whole market question. The co-operative associations are now a distinct factor. Merchants and apple men generally are recognizing it, and in the future sales and prices will be considered with distinct reference to co-operative associations.

The societies vary greatly in size. Some of the smaller have an output of from 2,000 to 3,000 barrels; a large number have between 6,000 and 10,000 barrels, a few 20,000, but none so far as I know reach 50,000 barrels.

The price, also, varies greatly, and it is noticeable that the smaller associations do not sell so well as the larger, proving conclusively that union is strength.

It would be interesting to note other items with reference to the associations, if time permitted, the capital invested by each, the supplies distributed and the methods of working. This, however, cannot be touched at present.

CO-OPERATION—A WORLD-WIDE MOVEMENT.

No treatment of co-operative apple selling in Canada would be adequate that did not connect it with the world-wide movement of co-operation, which is working a revolution in agriculture. It would leave a wrong impression if we were to take the view that co-operative apple selling associations in Canada are sporadic affairs, originating in local and individual causes and wholly unconnected with world-wide movements. As a matter of fact, the fundamental agents that developed co-operation in Denmark, Germany, France, Italy, Sweden, England, Scotland, Ireland and the United States, are at work here in Canada; and, though local causes have modified the particular lines that co-operative associations have taken in all these countries, yet they all owe their origin to the one great cause, namely, the development of modern industrialism which, in its turn, originated in the development of the steam engine and, later, in the developments connected with electric power.

When the village handicraftsmen migrated to the factory, one source of temporary farm labour was removed from the neighbourhood; but modern industrialism claimed more than this and began to draw from the farm labourers, and soon the less successful small farmer yielded to the magnetism of the town and left the country. And so the movement has gone on, not in one country alone but in all countries, and Canada is no exception.

The apple selling associations originating first in Ontario have been gradually working out their own salvation and, undoubtedly, the revival in apple growing can be traced, to a great extent, to the revivifying influences of co-operative associations. It would be interesting to trace the history in each province, to note the retarding influences that prevented Nova Scotia, for instance, from organizing until the last three years, almost we may say the last two years. It would be interesting to note why some associations that started and flourished vigorously for a number of years, have entirely disappeared; to note why societies, originating in some of the poorer apple districts, have succeeded from the start and are continuing to flourish and have succeeded in changing the reputation so that the orchards of these less favoured districts are counted among the best in the province. Why, for instance, should the splendid apple district, north of Lake Ontario, be so slow in organizing co-operatively when the natural conditions for apple growing are so evident. In the time at my disposal I shall attempt to take up only a few of the questions that should engage the deliberations of this conference.

ADVANTAGES OF CO-OPERATION.

In writing some years ago, I enumerated the advantages of co-operative marketing under 12 heads, as follows:—

1. Large stocks may be controlled by sellers who act as a unit.
2. Uniform packing, grading and marking will be practiced.
3. A reputation associated with a permanent brand or trade mark will be established.
4. The cost of picking, packing and marketing, including transportation, will be reduced.
5. Fruit will be picked and packed at the proper time.
6. Less common varieties will be utilized.
7. Storing facilities will be provided for in better shape.
8. Direct selling at the point of production will be encouraged.

9. Packages will be bought in large quantities or manufactured on the premises, with a material reduction in cost.

10. The placing of the purely commercial part of the industry in the hands of competent men whose interests are connected with those of other members of the association.

11. Spraying by hand or power outfits, co-operatively, in some cases will be adopted.

12. The manager and the better growers among the patrons will have every inducement to stimulate the less progressive members to better work.

It is unnecessary to enlarge upon each individual point. I may be permitted to testify, however, to the fact that the experience of many successful co-operative associations has borne out this enumeration of advantages. They do not all work with equal force in every society, but their truth will not be denied.

EDUCATIONAL VALUE.

In estimating the value of the benefits of the associations, it is possible that we have not placed the emphasis just where we should. Certainly, if I were to give points as to the value of each feature here enumerated, I should largely increase the number of points usually assigned to the educational work of a co-operative association. This particular feature has been very marked. Wherever an association has been in successful operation for a few years, there has been a wonderful improvement, not only in the quality but in the quantity of fruit produced, and this increase, both in quality and quantity, has been almost beyond belief.

To cite a single instance. A fruit grower who had a fairly good 2-acre orchard was content to receive about $75 a year for the fruit. In 1906 he was induced to join an association, and he yielded for the purpose of setting a good example, as some people go to church, and not for any particular good that he thought he could receive at the hands of an association. But the improving influences were at work, and year by year this improvement was measured by his returns in fruit. In 1911, the same man, with the same orchard and practically the same number of trees, received $432 for his apples; and this advance can be attributed wholly to the improvement as the result of the educative influences of the co-operative association.

CO-OPERATION AND THE INSPECTION AND SALE ACT.

No reference to co-operation in Canada would be complete without saying something of its effects upon the enforcements of the Inspection and Sale Act. Upon this point I am able to give you valuable testimony. In the office of the Fruit Division, we are getting material upon which an intelligent opinion can be based. Our records show that occasionally a co-operative association falls from grace, but for the most part the work of the co-operative associations with reference to grading and marking is without fault. Many of the associations grade higher than required by law, and do it for the purpose of maintaining a reputation which they have built up, and which they find of financial value to them.

In the early history of the steam engine, it was necessary to keep an attendant at the cylinder to open and close two valves at each stroke of the piston. When the inventive genius connected the opening and closing apparatus of these valves with the piston, it improved enormously the usefulness of the steam engine, but it did not do away with the necessity for an attendant for the engine.

In something the same way, if the whole body of apple growers were united co-operatively, it would do away with nine-tenths of the necessity for Dominion Fruit Inspectors, yet it would not do to affirm that the whole staff might be dismissed. We must not treat this phase of the matter lightly. It appears to me that, considering this effect of co-operation, the Department of Agriculture, having control of the

enforcement of the Inspection and Sale Act, should be sympathetic in giving active support to everything that could contribute to the organization of co-operative associations.

OBSTACLES—THE APPLE BUYER.

A study of the influences that are opposed to co-operation would yield good results. One of the most powerful influences at work in the past opposing co-operative organization was the selfish interest of the apple buyers. Time would fail me to elaborate this feature, but I will hazard the statement that the movement was delayed many years in Nova Scotia from this cause. The middlemen were particularly well organized there and large amounts of capital were invested in warehouses. Men took up apple buying and apple dealing as a profession and lived upon the industry, hence the enormous inertia that had to be overcome before the first successful society could establish itself. The same cause has been at work on the north shore of Lake Ontario; and it may be noted that the ease with which certain associations have been organized and managed has been due to the fact that they did not invade a territory that apple buyers coveted.

To oppose the influence of the apple men requires a broader education, both of apple men and of the orchardists. It is perfectly true that it is the aim of co-operation to do away, as far as possible, with useless middlemen; but no intelligent co-operator thinks for one moment that the fruit merchant has no place in a co-operative scheme. The influences, therefore, to overcome the schemes of the less reputable itinerant apple buyer are, for the most part, educational. Each individual case may suggest devices that might not be generally useful. In any case, the influence of the apple buyer is likely to grow less and less as the number of successful associations increase and, though their influence has been very marked in the past, it is waning and perhaps may no longer be considered a formidable obstacle.

CHARACTER AND PRODUCTS A FACTOR.

A somewhat different influence, but amenable to the same general treatment is to be found in the diversified character of our rural population as well as in the diversified nature of their occupations. In any particular neighbourhood in the older provinces a farmer considers himself independent of his neighbours in determining what he shall grow or what kind of animals he shall breed. Hence we find a farmer whose chief interest is in hog production. Next to him is a man who thinks only of grain growing, with animal husbandry entirely subordinate, and it is just possible that once in a while we find a farm where tree fruits yield the greater portion of the income; and so we range, in a single neighbourhood, through the whole gamut of agricultural productions.

In the character of the farmer himself we have the greatest diversity. A single neighbourhood may have representatives of a half dozen nationalities. They have little agreement in theology and, though secret societies are not common, it is safe to say that if they were, scarcely any two men would belong to the same lodge.

The basis of any true co-operation is similarity of products, sentiment and ideals, and only to the extent that these can be harmonized can there be a successful organization. It so happens that on most of our Canadian farms it was fashionable to plant an orchard even though it was a small one, and thus it is that, though the farms may have differed in everything else, they were at least alike in this, in having some apples. It was therefore possible, within reasonable limits, to get a carload of apples and ship them co-operatively; and perhaps to this similarity in the conditions of the apple business is to be attributed the fact that co-operation has succeeded in apple selling when it has not been developed to any great extent in any other line, with the possible exception of dairying.

I have spoken of the necessity for having the characters of the co-operators similar. This is a point well worth serious consideration. I could cite, for instance, a district personally known to me where within the radius of a few miles you have every grade of intellect from the most ignorant individual who can neither read nor write, to the college graduate, where there are representatives of at least eight different nationalities, and several different languages are spoken in the homes; where the wealth varies from pinching poverty to that of affluence and where the occupations are as varied as it is possible to find in our genial climate. It is hard to conceive of any organization being worked successfully with such a combination. The only hope is a long period of educational work, propaganda of the most fundamental kind, a combination of the agricultural college extension work and agricultural literature of every kind, with an improved public school system. To attempt to found an apple association in such a district would be very hazardous at best until the ameliorating influences of educational training of a most practical kind have been at work for some time.

PETTY JEALOUSIES.

Among the obstacles to co-operation we frequently find quoted the petty jealousies of the average farming community. Upon this score I would like to give my testimony that these jealousies are neither greater nor less in country places than among city populations of the same grade of intelligence. They may be traceable to a large extent to the total want of those institutions that would bring the farmers into contact with each other frequently. Where people attend the same church, go to the same school, work for the success of the same fall fair, are interested in farmers' clubs or are on the same board of management for a rural library, you rarely find those deep-seated jealousies that are sometimes reported as characteristic of rural populations; but that this want of confidence does exist and is a powerful influence in opposing organization is only too apparent to anyone who has attempted to organize a fruit growers' association. Here, again, the remedy lies in the better organization of country life for educational purposes.

RURAL LEADERS.

Canada sadly needs local leaders for rural affairs. Individualism has had such a powerful swing that it is almost impossible to persuade people that anyone else has an interest in their affairs, or that they should influence themselves in the affairs of others. The commercial spirit, too, has ruled, and the standard of success too often is the Almighty Dollar. The struggle for existence, perhaps, has been so keen that men are only beginning to see that the Divine rule of life, loving your neighbour as yourself, is the only real road to happiness.

Again, the want of educational influences that would train men to work in concert has been felt. In this connection, may I commend, as a powerful element in securing the regeneration of country life, the work of the Farmers' Grange. For many years this most splendid institution has been under an eclipse. No one reason will account for this, but the fact remains. There is, however, a revival in Grange affairs, and I hope the day is not far distant when the influence of the Grange will have permeated every rural district, when every school section will have its meeting place, and when social and economic questions will be discussed deliberately, fully and without passion, with special reference to rural affairs.

I cannot too heartily recommend all such social organizations, formed for the special purpose of reaching every section of the country and of taking an interest in every phase of rural life. I could easily imagine a condition where it would be much better to attempt to found a Grange than to organize a co-operative association. The Grange is the natural forerunner of the co-operative society, and it would be

well to delay its organization until we can get something of the ameliorating influences of a better country school, of a better church and of the Grange.

LEGISLATION.

And now I have to discuss a more insidious hindrance to co-operation, that is, the want of proper legislation to enable farmers to get together easily, safely and effectively as an incorporated body. It so happens that nearly all the improvements which we are trying to impose upon the rural population have been planned and elaborated by city people, by those who have not had, for years at least, any practical association with rural affairs, and who know the problems only as they see them from a city office window.

It thus appears that the legislation which works most effectively in the financial combinations of commercial life, where capital is the chief feature, is very gravely defective when applied to a rural affair, which is a combination of men and industries and where capital, though absolutely necessary, is yet incidental. This, perhaps, is one of the features to which we can most profitably devote ourselves at this conference. This particular defect in our legislation is fundamental; and we must look for many failures and grave difficulties unless we can secure proper co-operative legislation.

CO-OPERATIVE VS. JOINT STOCK LEGISLATION.

I may be excused, therefore, if I point out briefly the difference between legislation quite suitable to all our great commercial and financial undertakings (where capital dominates) and the legislation required for rural organization, where men and their occupations are the chief factor and where capital is quite subordinate. The ordinary joint stock company is a mechanism whereby a number of men can unite to act as a unit. Through their officers, they lose their individual identity and speak as a single voice; but, in determining what that voice shall be, it is the number of shares that constitutes the voting power, that is, it is the amount of capital invested that gives weight to the members composing the corporation. We may speak of it, then, and in no derogatory sense, as being capitalistic and almost necessarily autocratic.

On the other hand, an apple selling association or a co-operative evaporator or, in fact, any other rural organization, requiring incorporation whereby the individuals composing it may speak as a single individual, find that capital is only incidental, the chief thing being the industry. It is the value of the product handled by the association that determines each man's interest in this rural body.

Roughly speaking, the capitalistic organization such as the ordinary joint stock company is a combination of capital simply. A rural organization must, of necessity, be a combination of men. This principle is so well established by the experience of all countries that it is somewhat remarkable that it has not permeated Canadian legislation. Those who have read the history of co-operation will have remarked that, while there are individual societies composed of men of exceptional ability and public spirit that have succeeded with a joint stock organization, yet speaking generally co-operation has been a dismal failure until suitable legislation was provided or at least until antagonistic laws have been repealed. I would scarcely care to be so positive upon this point if I were not sure that I have with me the history, not of one country alone but of twenty countries, and I have to support this view the testimony, not of one investigator alone but of every investigator who has acquired any reputation.

SIR HORACE PLUNKETT'S OPINION.

Time will permit me, however, to quote but one—and I could quote no better—Sir Horace Plunkett. Writing recently in the New York 'Outlook' he says:

'The object of rural associations is not to declare a dividend, but to improve the conditions of the industry for the members. In the control of the management the principle of "One Man, One Vote" should be strictly observed, an essential condition of co-operative as distinguished from joint stock organization. The chief advantage of co-operative legislation to the farmer is that it enables him to do his business in a way that suits him instead of adopting a town-made system unsuited to his needs.'

In Canada the farmer is not permitted to do business in his own way and upon a plan that would work no hardship to him nor to anyone else; but is obliged to adopt the methods of capitalism that enable those whose interests are not necessarily in the land or in the industry, to control the organization and take what toll they please.

PROGRESS MADE BY CANADIAN CO-OPERATIVE APPLE ASSOCIATIONS.

However, notwithstanding bad legislation and want of leaders in rural affairs and all the other obstacles opposed to co-operation, we are making great headway. It is true that not all the societies have been successful. Many have fallen by the way. Not a few of the associations that were counted among the most successful a few years ago, have disappeared entirely and their history, had we but time to refer to it, is not without interest. But the greater number of the associations have continued to flourish, and they do so in spite of the conditions that surround them rather than because of them. Many of them would long since have disappeared had it not been for the public spirited men who have been entrusted with their management.

CO-OPERATION AND STORAGE.

It would be invidious to mark out individual societies, and I content myself, therefore, with noting the lines of work that have been particularly successful. I note specially the success which has attended the building of packing houses, warehouses and cold storage equipments. A few years ago, the storage facilities for apples and fruit generally, were very meagre indeed, and the storages then existing were in the hands of private individuals and served largely as traps in which the private apple dealer could catch his game and grow rich upon the quarry. To-day there are some scores of warehouses owned by the orchardists themselves and not built for the purpose of earning dividends but for the purpose of improving the fruit industry. This I count among one of the great successes to be reported in connection with co-operation.

CO-OPERATION AND PRICES.

It might not be out of place to record, as one of the advantages of co-operation, that prices have advanced materially. I do not mean to say that the general advance in the price of apples is solely and wholly due to the co-operative associations, but I do say—and note it as one of the triumphs of co-operation—that the members of co-operative associations are getting to-day at least 75 per cent more for their apples than they were under individual management. This would be no subject for congratulation if it meant that they were getting this advance and did not earn it. The real subject for congratulation is that the apples furnished by the members of the co-operative associations are worth 75 per cent more than they were under individual management, and that the co-operative organization renders it possible for them to get the increased price for the increased value which they have added to their product.

The members of the Norfolk Fruit Growers' Association in former years, when the Liverpool prices were even higher than they are to-day, sold their apples for $1.25 to $1.75, and many of them even cheaper than that. To-day these same members

are getting an average of $3 per barrel, and I repeat that the buyer is getting better value for his money.

APPLE SELLING ASSOCIATIONS AS DISTRIBUTING SOCIETIES.

Another great success has been scored in using the associations as agents for buying supplies. In making a comparison between co-operation in Denmark, for instance, and Great Britain, we find that in Denmark co-operation is concerned largely with agricultural production and selling. In Great Britain agricultural production and selling have made progress only during the last few years, but co-operative distribution of the necessities of life has made most extraordinary progress. The co-operative wholesale society of Great Britain last year distributed over $350,000,000 of products, a sum so vast that it can scarcely be conceived.

There seems to be no reason why distributive co-operation should not make some headway in Canada. Many of the associations have already made some use of the organization for distributive purposes; indeed, the St. Catharines Cold Storage and Forwarding Company is a shining example of what can be done in this line. Their distributions have grown from a few hundred dollars the first year to $90,000 in 1911, and upon this it is safe to say there has been a saving of from $10,000 to $20,000 per year. This phase of co-operative work might very well occupy our attention.

CENTRAL ORGANIZATIONS.

In reading co-operative history I have been impressed with the fact that sooner or later the local associations co-operated among themselves to form a central association. In the case of productive associations, these central associations were engaged almost wholly in selling the product of the local associations. In the case of distributive associations they have developed into wholesale buying or even manufacturing concerns; but in all cases successful local associations lead to larger unions. A notable example of this is the Danish Farmers' Co-operative Export Egg Association, which now sells for 30,000 producers, distributed among 475 societies. The Central Co-operative Slaughter House Association of Denmark sells practically all the pork products of the nation though, of course, there are several other independent societies, with small outputs, doing a wholesale business, both at home and abroad.

Perhaps the best example of a central co-operative association is the California Fruit Exchange. In this State they had tried individual growing and individual selling. They tried co-operation in all its phases of local organization before they arrived at the conclusion that no method was satisfactory that would not put it in the power of the producer to reach the consumer through a co-operative organization. This association might well serve as a model for us in Canada. We could copy their organization directly and could adopt their methods of selling with very great advantage, and I have not the slightest doubt that the good results that enabled them to handle such an enormous mass of business successfully, would work marvels in the Canadian apple industry.

Last year (1910-11) their gross receipts totalled something over $20,000,000, not one cent of which remained uncollected.

It is a matter for consideration whether or not the present Central Ontario Association should undertake the actual selling for affiliated associations. The marked difference in the quality of Ontario apples from the various parts of Ontario, as the result of a difference in the climate, soil and culture and, perhaps also, a difference in the ideals of the apple growers, complicate the question of a central selling association. The difficulty of communicating quickly and easily with the different associations and the fact that the managers of the different local associations have only a slight acquaintance with each other, all tend to increase the difficulties of a central selling association. Therefore, I say that the matter is one that

would have to be carefully weighed before any obligations were incurred. But the final result is certain. It must sooner or later become a selling association.

These conditions, however, do not prevail to such a marked extent in Nova Scotia; and one might also except that the crop of the three counties, Hants, Annapolis and Kings, could be sold easily through one organization.

British Columbia, too, labours under great difficulties in any attempt to organize the various selling associations. Nevertheless, the subject is worthy of study, and some solution of the difficulties may be found.

NEW MARKETS.

In this connection, I would like to emphasize as an incentive to some solution of this problem the fact that the greatest use of a central association is its power of developing new markets. This work cannot be done readily or economically by an individual or by a local association. Of course, the local associations are in a much better position to take up the work than private individuals, and undoubtedly they could do much and are doing much to develop markets with comparatively little outside assistance. But even the work they can do is small compared with what we can conceive to be the work of a central association.

I would say, too, that a central association cannot open up markets effectively without being a selling association. To open up markets you must have fruit; and no apostle of wider markets, no matter how eloquent he may be, can do much unless he has at his command a large quantity of fruit to back up his exploiting. The ordinary fruit merchant will not develop new markets. For instance, there are a large number of small towns and villages that are imperfectly supplied with fruit. So long as the larger markets absorb the fruit, these smaller towns are apt to be neglected; and, though commission merchants may make an effort to solicit orders in towns adjacent to their headquarters, they will not willingly plan schemes involving, perhaps, an initial loss in order to gain a large constituency of consumers later. The reason for this is obvious. One may plan the scheme and incur the initial loss; but he has no guarantee that his neighbour, who has made no initial investment, may not step in and enjoy the benefits of the market which he developed.

The case is entirely different when the fruit is in the hands of a central co-operative selling association. If it should appear that there is likely to be a glut in the large markets, part of the fruit will be used to develop the smaller markets and, though the price received may be low, it is yet better than a total loss, and serves both to relieve the larger market and to open up a prospective market in the smaller towns and villages for the future; and it is a matter of indifference to the co-operative association who sells the fruit in these smaller markets inasmuch as they really represent the producers and the sales must ultimately benefit them.

If time permitted, I would quote special instances of this in the case of the Georgia Peach Growers' Shipping Association as well as in the history of the California Fruit Growers' Exchange. A well posted member of the latter association said that if the country should revert to individual growing and selling of citrus fruits, the consumption would fall off 50 per cent, that the price would be reduced to the producers below the present estimate of the cost of production. I cannot, therefore, urge too strongly upon this conference the necessity of considering this phase of the co-operative movement.

CALIFORNIA CITRUS PROTECTIVE LEAGUE.

We are precluded here to-day from studying at length the work of similar associations in other countries. I may be permitted, however, to note the work of the California Citrus Protective League, as it is distinctly applicable to our central associations which seem to logically follow our present local associations.

This league is purely voluntary and is composed of representatives from the various local exchanges connected with the central shipping association, and of representa-

tives of outside organizations. The league undertakes to look after such questions as legislation affecting fruit, tariff questions and the broader aspects of transportation such as through and discriminating rates. It also takes up cold storage, the disposal of by-products and all similar questions, but in no way interferes in the details of every-day business. Should a claim for loss arise with a railroad company, the matter would be taken up by the shipping association; but the question of law with reference to claims or the making of regulations affecting claims, would come properly within the scope of the Protective League.

To illustrate this point again. Changes were made in the tariff on lemons coming in from foreign countries, by which an increase in price might reasonably have been expected by the lemon growers of the United States. Just as soon as these tariff changes became effective the railway corporations raised the rate fifteen cents a box, which completely offset the advantages of the higher tariff to the lemon growers. This question was taken up by the Protective League, the case was presented to the Inter-State Commerce Commission, and after many appeals the case was finally decided, and the railway officials were obliged to reduce lemons to the original rate. It was calculated that this single decision saved to the lemon growers of California 45 times the entire cost of running the league. Considered from the lemon growers' standpoint, this justified the existence of such a league.

POSSIBLE SALES TO THE ENGLISH CO-OPERATIVE WHOLESALE SOCIETY

Not the least important feature of the work of the central assoication might be giving the local associations some medium through which they could act as one. The usefulness of this might be illustrated by the opportunity that opens to deal with the English Co-operative Associations. Great Britain, as has been pointed out, has been the chief exponent of distributive co-operative associations.

There are at present about 1,500 societies affiliated in a Co-operative Wholesale Society, with a membership totalling 2,700,000, and if we take each member as representing three of population, it is safe to say that this one organization is feeding and clothing a population not very different from that of the whole of Canada.

If we can but secure proper legislation for our associations on a truly co-operative plan, it is quite possible that the apple growers' associations may be allowed affiliation, through the International Association, with the British Co-operative Wholesale Society. If so, it is possible that our co-operative associations would find their whole output absorbed by the 1,500 co-operative associations of Great Britain, to whom we could ship directly with no deductions for middlemen's charges, dockage or auction fees.

Whether our apple associations can become affiliated or not, there is still the possibility of this market before us. A central association would have to stand between the co-operative stores and our co-operative associations here. The opportunity is before us, but considerable organization will be necessary before we can hope for results.

Summarizing this hasty survey of the history of co-operative assoications in Canada, may I be permitted to point out that co-operation in apple selling in Canada has been enormously successful, so successful, indeed, that every effort should be made to extend the movement to all lines of fruit growing? To this end, it would appear that there is needed most urgently a strong propaganda movement co-ordinating the efforts of the Dominion and provincial governments and the local organizations everywhere.

For the purpose of accommodating the large number of local associations now formed, it is absolutely essential, to accomplish the greatest success, that strong central selling associations be formed in each province, and that these provincial associations should co-ordinate, either through the managers or, better still, through a Dominion organization representing all the associations.

For the purpose of successful work, not only for the purpose of selling fruit, but for all other farm organizations, co-operative legislation is most urgently needed. Canada is entirely without co-operative legislation notwithstanding the examples of the older countries and of the United States. This matter of better legislation is almost vital to the continued success of the movement.

The clock warns me that I must stop. A programme has been arranged, and it must be adhered to if we are to have an orderly and profitable conference. That the time allotted to this subject is wholly inadequate goes without saying. I have touched only on a few points and have elaborated none. The discussion must be of the same perfunctory character if the time limit is to be preserved.

I will hazard a prediction which is not based upon any mystic lore which is supposed to come with the sunset of life. I am relying simply upon my appreciation of the intelligence and enterprise of the Canadian fruit grower and farmer, and upon my knowledge of co-operative history in other lands. At no distant time a conference such as this and lasting quite as long, will be called by those interested in Canadian fruit growers and farmers to discuss the single subject of co-operation among farmers, its history and its various ramifications, with a view of discovering the best application of its principles to Canada.

The subject of co-operation is fundamental. It offers a solution to nine-tenths of our practical problems—varieties, spraying, pruning, orchard culture, and marketing. Rapid progress is impossible except within co-operative lines. The profoundest investigations in farm economics have discovered no better way of applying labour rationally, of preserving its products safely and of distributing these widely and seasonably.

It is the business expression of the purest Christianity. It is the week-day response to the teachings of the Divine Master.

'As ye would that others should do unto you, so do ye also unto them.'

'Love your neighbours as yourself.'

It is a new force, developed in modern industry, whose cardinal principle is justice—to the weak as well as to the strong, whose method is economy, in time, labour and money, and whose inspiration, without which it could not live, is the great ideal, the Brotherhood of Man.

REPORT OF STRIKING COMMITTEE.

P. W. Hodgetts, Chairman: I move that the following report be adopted by the conference:—

Programme Committee: Theodore Ross, Prince Edward Island; C. O. Allen, Nova Scotia; N. E. Jack, Quebec; D. Johnson, Ontario; W. F. Somers, British Columbia; A. G. Turney, New Brunswick.

Credential Committee: J. A. Annear, Prince Edward Island; F. A. Chipman, Nova Scotia; A. C. Parker, New Brunswick; Robt. Brodie, Quebec; Elmer Lick, Ontario; Thos. Abriel, British Columbia.

Resolution Committee: A. E. Dewar, Prince Edward Island; J. N. Chute, Nova Scotia; W. A. Pitcairn, British Columbia; R. W. Shepherd, Quebec; R. Thompson, Ontario; C. N. Vroom, New Brunswick; M. C. Smith, Ontario Apple Shippers' Association. (Carried).

Honourable Mr. Burrell: I have much pleasure in announcing that His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught, will attend the conference and inspect the fruit and address a few words to the fruit growers, and that he will stay with us and listen to the discussion for about half an hour. (Applause).

The Chairman: We will now have the pleasure of listening to a paper from Mr. W. T. Macoun, Dominion Horticulturist, on the subject of 'New Varieties of Fruits.'

W. T. Macoun, Dominion Horticulturist.

Chairman and Gentlemen:

On account of the importance of this conference and in order to save time, I have boiled down in a short paper the thoughts I would like to present to you in regard to this question.

NEW FRUITS.

BY

W. T. Macoun, Dominion Horticulturist.

While the fruit grower, fruit buyer, fruit shipper, and nurseryman all agree that too many varieties of fruits are being grown in Canada, they also agree that all the varieties which are grown have, each of them, some decided faults. It will also be admitted, we think, that the fruit growers in some parts of Canada have not as good a choice of varieties as those in the more favoured districts where a much larger proportion of the good varieties offered for sale do well. These facts being known, the desirability of having new fruits which will have a larger proportion of good characteristics than those at present on the market must be apparent to all. Furthermore, those who live in the parts of Canada where climatic conditions enable them to grow fruits to better advantage than others must see the desirability of obtaining varieties which will be suited to the severer climatic conditions.

The fact that our best varieties of apples such as, for instance, the Northern Spy, Esopus Spitzenburg, Tompkins King, Grimes, Baldwin, Greening, Jonathan, and Newtown Pippin were nearly all originated over one hundred years ago, and some of them considerably over one hundred years ago, is no proof that newer and better varieties cannot be obtained. Those mentioned, and many more like them, were chance seedlings selected here and there from the many thousand seedlings scattered over the eastern portion of the United States. They were selected because they were fine apples and did well. When, however, we come to try these varieties in climates considerably more severe than those in which the original trees lived we find that they will not succeed. Have the people in these colder districts been content to not grow apples because these fine sorts will not grow? No: They looked at first to a country with a cold climate for their fruit and we have the Yellow Transparent, Red Astrachan, Duchess, Alexander and the Montreal Strawberry and Peach of Montreal—both evidently of Russian origin or parentage, and many others. That old variety, the Fameuse, which no doubt originated in the province of Quebec, is, we believe of Russian extraction, the Anis apple, an old Russian variety, grown at the present time having many of the characteristics of the Fameuse. In Minnesota and Wisconsin where they also had to depend on these Russian varieties, we find springing from the Russians the Wealthy (said to be from Siberian crab seed), Wolf River, and McMahon, Seedlings of Alexander, all extremely useful apples both where they originated and in eastern Ontario, the province of Quebec and New Brunswick where the climate is somewhat similar. From the Fameuse has sprung in eastern Ontario and Quebec, the McIntosh, St. Lawrence, Scarlet Pippin, Canada Baldwin, Langford Beauty and Rufus. In the province of New Brunswick there are many apples originated in the province. Two of the most noted are the New Brunswicker and Crimson Beauty. The Dudley apple, which is also largely grown in the province, originated in Maine near the New Brunswick line, and is said to have been grown from seed of the New Brunswicker.

Prince Edward Island can grow some of the best apples of the warmer districts and also grows to advantage the Russian, and apples of Canadian origin. Few new sorts of merit have originated there yet.

In the Prairie Provinces they are growing to a limited extent the Russian apples and the hybrids originated by Dr. Wm. Saunders between the Russian apples and the Wild Siberian Crab, Pyrus baccata, the hardiest apple known.

The same need for new varieties has not been apparent in the warmer parts of Ontario, the Annapolis Valley of Nova Scotia, and in the more favoured parts of British Columbia as in those parts of Canada just referred to, hence local seedlings have not come to the front, but we know there are many fine Canadian seedlings in existence to-day, some of which might prove better than the named varieties at present grown. In the past it took a long time before the true worth of a new variety was recognized. The original McIntosh tree was planted in 1797, but it is only within the last thirty or forty years that much has been heard of it, and only within the last ten that the public has begun to know it.

The apple has been used in this paper as an example of how new varieties are obtained when there is a recognized necessity. Some of the other fruits might be dealt with in somewhat the same way, but in a short paper it is not possible to do this.

Practically all the varieties of apples which have been mentioned are of chance origin. This is not because the best way to get new sorts is by chance, but because little effort had been made to originate new varieties with a definite purpose until comparatively recent years. In Canada the efforts of such men as Wm. Saunders, Charles Arnold, Francis Peabody Sharp, P. C. Dempsey, W. H. Mills, Wm. Haskins, James Dougall and John Craig in originating new varieties of fruits resulted in their obtaining some very good sorts, but unfortunately none of these men was able to devote the time to this work that its importance warrants.

Within quite recent years the breeding of new fruits has been carried on quite extensively by a large proportion of the fifty or more experiment stations in the United States. Two states which are breeding fruits on a large scale are South Dakota and Minnesota. From the South Dakota experiment station a number of new fruits have already been sent out, and the Minnesota State Breeding Station, though organized but a few years ago, has originated some good things already. The New York experiment station has already begun to distribute new fruits, some apples, raspberries, and strawberries having been already sent out.

Of Luther Burbank's work we hear a great deal, but very few of his new fruits have been found valuable in Canada. Chas. Patten, of Crescent City, Iowa, is a veteran hybridist who has originated a large number of new fruits. His Patten Greening apple is very hardy and compares favourably in this respect with the hardiest of the Russians. Stark Bros., nurserymen, of Louisiana, Mo., have introduced a great many apples in recent years, but most of these have been of inferior quality. The Delicious apple, one of their introductions, is an apple of good quality, and is now being planted to some extent in British Columbia. While an apple of good quality, it is inclined to grow rather unshapely under some conditions. The King David, another of Stark's introductions, is of remarkably deep colour and attracts much attention at exhibitions, but so far has not shown itself superior to Jonathan.

There is no doubt that there are many fine seedling fruits of Canadian origin which are not yet known. It has been our endeavour at the Central Experimental Farm to bring together there all the best of these Canadian fruits which come under our notice, and now there are upwards of 100 of these there, some of which are very promising. A better plan, however, is to test the promising fruits, originated in any provice, in the province or part of the province in which they originated, and as experimental stations become available this is being done. Some fruits are much more suitable for certain climates than others.

I should like briefly to state what the Dominion government has done, and is doing, to originate new fruits.

The work of Dr. Wm. Saunders, assisted by Dr. Chas. E. Saunders, in crossing the Pyrus baccata or Wild Siberian Crab apple with the varieties of apples in com-

merce is well known. His object was to obtain hardy varieties for the prairie provinces. About 800 trees were grown of the first crosses, and some good varieties with fruit as large, or larger than, the best named crab apples was obtained. These have been thoroughly tested on the prairies and are now producing fruit there in a number of places. In 1910 the variety Robin produced fruit at the Dominion sub-station at Fort Vermilion, Peace river, latitude 58°, and we have a report that the Charles apple fruited at Lesser Slave Lake in 1911. The best of these crosses were again crossed with the large apples, and more than 400 trees were growing in 1911 at Ottawa. A number of these have fruited and while the majority bear little, if any, larger fruit than the first cross some are as much as 2½ inches in diameter. These will be tested in the west.

Another way in which we hope to obtain hardy apples for the prairies is by growing seedlings of the hardiest Russian apples. These will be planted in nursery rows on the Branch Farms and those which prove hardy after several seasons will be removed to permanent positions. In this way a very large number can be tested on a comparatively small area. About 17,000 yearlings are available for planting on the Branch Farms this year, and there will be a much larger number next year.

Work in raising seedling apples was begun by Mr. John Craig, Horticulturist at the Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa, in 1890, when 3,000 seedling apple trees were planted out at Ottawa. These were raised from seed imported from north of Riga, in Russia. Most of the trees proved very hardy and some of the most promising are being tested on the Branch Experimental Farms. The fruit of these was of good size, but few of those which fruited are good enough to grow where the better commercial apples succeed.

In the horticultural division at Ottawa we have fruited 997, or practically 1,000 seedling and cross-bred varieties of our own production during the past eight years. Most of these are seedlings of such apples as McIntosh, St. Lawrence, Fameuse, Wealthy, Shiawassee, Swayzie, Scott Winter, Salome, Lawyer, Gano, Northern Spy, Winter St. Lawrence, and American Golden Russet, and it is planned to have a large number of new trees old enough to fruit each year. Of those which have fruited, about 80 per cent have been of marketable size and only about 5 per cent were small or crab-like. Over 200 have been considered so promising that they are being propagated for futher test, and some 60 of the best have been named. The McIntosh, Northern Spy, Wealthy, and Langford Beauty have given the best seedlings. These named sorts are being propagated and sent to the Branch Farms, other institutions and private persons for further test. It is not our desire to boom these varieties, but to let time and the experience of a number of persons show whether these are better for certain districts than other sorts on the market.

Following are some of the names which have been given to the more promising varieties:—

McIntosh seedlings:—Lobo, Melba, Carno, Caruso, Nemo, Joyce, Brock, Garnet and Service.

Northern Spy seedlings:—Rocket, Thurso, Rosalie, Glanton, Bingo, Nester, Niobe, Tasty, Donald, Elmer, Sandow.

Wealthy seedlings:—Mendel, Luke, Galletta, Pinto, Medford, Battle, Melvin, Crusoe.

Langford Beauty seedlings:—Kim, Ripon, Horace, Kildare, Gerald, Cora, Sonora.

I might go on enumerating the names of seedlings of other varieties, but these will be found with descriptions of the fruit in the annual reports of the Dominion Experimental Farms.

One of the most promising of the cross-bred apples is the Helz, a cross made by the speaker between Lawver and McIntosh.

This will give some idea of the kind of work being done with apples. Some work is also being done with other fruits, particularly the native plums for which we believe

there is a great field of usefulness in Canada for those parts where the European and Japanese plums will not succeed.

Seedling strawberries, raspberries and gooseberries are being grown on a limited scale. Some very fine varieties of black currants and raspberries were originated by Dr. Wm. Saunders. The black currants have recently been offered for sale by at least one nurseryman. Some of the best of these are Kerry, Eclipse, Magnus, Clipper, Climax and Eagle, and the Success is the best early black currant we have tested. The Brighton and Count are two early raspberries, originated by Dr. Saunders, which are very promising.

While plant breeding has been one of the important lines of horticultural work at the Central Experimental Farm, there have been so many experiments in progress that it has been impossible to give it the attention which its importance deserves.

Of the newer fruits offered for sale by nurserymen the number that are really superior to the other sorts are few.

Among strawberries we have not found any of the new varieties of the past five years equal to those originated before. A new type of autumn-bearing strawberries, originated by Mr. H. Rockhill, Conrad, Iowa, are producing more late fruit than any of those introduced before.

At the Horticultural Experiment Station, Jordan Harbour, several thousands of new varieties of strawberries have been originated by Mr. A. Logsdail by cross-breeding, some of which are very fine.

Among raspberries, the Herbert, originated by Mr. R. B. Whyte, Ottawa, is certainly one of the best introductions of any kind of fruit in recent years.

The Sunbeam raspberry, originated by Prof. Hansen, of the South Dakota Experiment Station, is proving a valuable acquisition for the prairie provinces on account of its extreme hardiness. The King raspberry is also one of the best of the newer raspberries and is particularly useful in the prairie provinces.

Boskoop Giant is a fine black currant of comparatively recent introduction.

The Himalaya blackberry is a new fruit which has been much advertised. It is an Asiatic form of the European bramble. It is more like a dewberry than a blackberry. The fruit is of medium size, black and of good quality, but too soft for distant shipment. It is productive on the west coast, but is too tender for eastern Canada.

Among grapes, no new varieties are being offered for sale which seem to be likely to take the place of those already established, although such sorts as Early Daisy and Manito are useful additions to those which ripen in the colder sections, as they are extremely early.

What will, we believe, be a very useful fruit in the colder parts of Canada is the Downy-leaved Cherry (*Prunus tomentosa*), a native of North China, Manchuria, and Japan. This is a bush growing about six feet high and bearing roundish or globular, slightly heart-shaped, bright red fruit about half an inch in diameter. It is subacid with a pleasant flavour. So far no grafted varieties are available. It varies considerably when grown from seed. This cherry has done well at Ottawa and has fruited in Manitoba.

Few of the newer plums are being found desirable for planting in the best plum districts. The Climax, Shiro, America, and Golden are four of Burbank's varieties which are worthy of more extended testing. Some of Hansen's new hybrids are proving useful for the colder districts. The Omaha is one of the best of the newer plums for the districts where the American sorts are mainly grown. It is a cross between a Japanese variety and an American and was originated by the late Theodore Williams, of Nebraska.

The best of the newer peaches for Canadian conditions is probably the Oceana of the Crawford type.

No new varieties of pears of great promise, that we know of, are being offered for sale in America.

Among the newer apples not already mentioned, the Dudley, Rochelle, Milwaukee, and Langford Beauty are desirable sorts for the colder parts of Ontario, Quebec and the Maritime Provinces.

Winter Banana is doing well in the Maritime Provinces and in parts of British Columbia. It must be handled carefully as it shows bruises readily. The Delicious apple is fruiting in British Columbia and in Nova Scotia, both in the colder and milder parts, but the fruit is not very symmetrical in the east especially, and it is doubtful if it will become a commercial variety except in restricted districts. At Ottawa it has not yet fruited, the tree killing back at first but is now apparently hardy. The Lowland Raspberry is an early summer Russian apple of handsome appearance and good quality, but bruises very easily.

Other new fruits might be mentioned, but the time is limited.

In view of the large number of new fruits which are sure to be introduced within the next few years, and the necessity of having as few varieties as possible planted for commercial purposes in each district, it seems to me very important that some means should be devised to encourage growers to plant but a few sorts, and we know of no better way to bring this about than by the co-operative buying of nursery stock, so that even if the total number of varieties grown in Canada is large, the number in each district will be few.

The CHAIRMAN.—I was very glad to hear Mr. Macoun make that last remark as to the suitability of certain varieties for particular districts. Travelling over Canada as I have done for a good many years, and paying attention to the quality of fruit and the particular varieties and localities, I have been very much struck with the fact that certain varieties do better in some places than they do in others. This is a matter that should receive more attention than it does; because certain varieties will grow well in Southern Ontario, does not mean that they will reach perfection in Nova Scotia, and the same thing can be said of a great many other districts. I know you have listened with a great deal of interest to Mr. Macoun's instructive and interesting paper which is now open for discussion.

Mr. L. A. HAMILTON.—Has anything been done towards securing a hardier peach? I noticed along the shores of Lake Huron, eighty miles north of Toronto, some excellent peaches growing and they tell me that from year to year they have had no difficulty in producing a high grade peach. I suppose they are seedlings. I do not know whether there has been any effort made to trace up the origin, or whether any effort has been made to investigate as to whether a hardy strain could be grown in the northern part of Ontario.

Mr. MACOUN.—I do not know that anything has been done as to the particular peach Mr. Hamilton speaks of. The Dominion Government has no experimental station in Ontario except the one at Ottawa and that is not a very good place for growing peaches, but during the past year, we had quite a crop of peaches on the farm at Ottawa, and I have been very much interested in trying to get some hardy types of peaches. I have heard of a tree in Iowa that they call the 'Lone Peach Tree.' I presume that it was the only tree that remained alive from a number that were planted. I got some of the growers up there to send me down a lot of peach stones from this tree, and we grew quite a number of trees, and one of them has proved decidedly hardier than any of the others, and we had a very good crop of peaches the past year. I have been waiting for an opportunity like this to show these Ottawa grown peaches, but I regret that I have not any of them to show you. I believe we can extend the peach growing districts of Canada. There is a district in Nova Scotia where they can grow peaches, but it is a little doubtful whether they can be grown for commercial purposes. They have originated some hardy types, and I think that Prince Edward Island will be able to grow peaches.

Mr. C. O. ALLEN.—We can grow everything in Nova Scotia, even to sugar cane.

MEMBER.—How cold was it at Ottawa last year?

Mr. MACOUN.—20 degrees below zero. Last winter was not as cold as this winter. The peach tree I spoke of had a few evergreen boughs tied around it.

MEMBER.—Did you cover it with a fur coat?

Mr. MACOUN.—No, it stood right out in the open. We are propagating a certain number of apple trees and we are not trying to boom them at the present time. Our idea is to send them out to a few people who are interested, and then if they find they are good, we will introduce them.

MEMBER.—I think that is a move in the right direction, and I think it would be well to continue experiments of that kind.

The CHAIRMAN.—I will make an effort to visit the Experimental Farm during the peach season after this. I read a very interesting book of travel not very long ago, and the writer mentioned peaches that were grown down at Kamouraska below Quebec, and I find in the census returns that there were peach trees and a crop of peaches in Quebec in 1910.

Meeting adjourned.

THURSDAY, February 15, 1912.

Morning Session.

Mr. J. A. RUDDICK in the chair.

The CHAIRMAN.—The first business this morning is to receive the report of the Credential Committee.

REPORT OF THE CREDENTIAL COMMITTEE.

J. A. ANNEAR.—I move, seconded by Robert Brodie that the following report of the Credential Committee be approved of by the conference:—

(1) That at the opening session all the accredited delegates were present with the exception of three from the province of Quebec, namely, Prof. W. S. Blair, of Macdonald College, Father Leopold, of La Trappe, and G. A. Gigault, Deputy Minister of Agriculture for Quebec.

(2) That only the accredited delegates be permitted to vote.

(3) That a delegate moving any resolution be allowed ten minutes on the floor, and the seconder or any other delegate five minutes. Any other person will be allowed to speak on that subject for not more than three minutes. (Carried.)

REPORT OF THE PROGRAMME COMMITTEE.

THEODORE ROSS.—I move, seconded by W. F. Somers, that the following report of the Programme Committee be approved of by the conference: That the present programme for to-day's sessions be accepted as it stands. (Carried.)

The CHAIRMAN.—I will ask Mr. Bunting to take the chair while I read my short paper.

REFRIGERATION IN RELATION TO FRUIT GROWING IN CANADA.

BY

J. A. RUDDICK,

Dairy and Cold Storage Commissioner.

The modern use of refrigeration is nothing more than the system the application of principles that have been recognized from time immemorial, and which have been universally practised by every housekeeper in the land. The vegetable and fruit cellars in connection with our houses differ from regular cold storages only in degree or in the lack of that absolute control of temperature which refrigeration gives. The practice of hanging meats or poultry in a cold place during the winter months has exactly the same object behind it as if the goods were placed in cold storage. The fruit grower who holds his apples in a 'frost proof' warehouse is using cold storage, which is more or less effective as the temperature of the warehouse is reduced to the minimum of safety. These methods, that take advantage of what may be called natural cold storage, are of course defective inasmuch as they are least useful, if not entirely valueless, just at the time when the protection is most needed.

No one doubts the value of a low temperature in the preserving of milk, butter, meats, fruits or vegetables for family use, and such foods are always placed in the coolest spot available and very generally in a miniature cold storage warehouse in the shape of kitchen refrigerator. And yet it is a fact that there is still some prejudice against cold storage foods, not only on the part of the consumer, but with the dealer as well. It is true that food products do not always come out of cold storage in a satisfactory condition, for the simple reason that they are often out of condition, or over mature, when they are placed in cold storage. The function of cold storage is preventive not corrective. I mention this because I find there is much need for more attention being paid to this point in the application of refrigeration to the preservation of food products.

It has frequently been asserted that the large quantity of apples which are wasted every year, and especially when there is a heavy crop, could be saved if sufficient cold storage space was available. The writer of a paper at the last meeting of the Royal Society of Canada advanced this view, and his figures of the saving which might be effected ran into millions of barrels. I need not tell experienced apple growers like yourselves that this view of the matter is entirely erroneous. In the first place it is not possible to save these scabby, bruised and wormy windfalls, and in the second place it would not pay to employ cold storage to save them even if it were possible. The proper destination for such inferior fruit is the evaporator or the cider mill. Moreover there would be little or no advantage in cold storing a large proportion of the fruit that is actually marketed owing to the presence of defects or injuries which would result in early decay in spite of cold storage. Although I am an advocate of cold storage I am prepared to say that the losses arising from diseased fruit, or from mechanical injuries received in picking and packing, far exceed any losses which may result from a lack of cold storage facilities, especially for late or winter varieties. I do not say that to minimize the importance of cold storage but rather to emphasize the other thing. We will never derive full benefit from cold storage until we first learn to handle our fruit carefully, so as to avoid bruises and other injuries.

Refrigeration can be made to serve the fruit trade of Canada in the following different ways:—

1. The use of iced cars for the transportation of fruit in warm weather.
2. The chilling of early apples and tender fruit before shipment in iced cars.
3. The cold storage of fruit intended for long keeping, and to extend the season for choice varieties.

USE OF ICED CARS.

The use of the iced cars for the carriage of fruit is increasing year by year, and fruit growers are learning that the question of temperature in transit is of quite as much importance as the length of time occupied in carrying the fruit from one place to another. As an illustration of what I mean I would draw your attention to the experience of this Department in the shipment of peaches from St. Catharines and other Niagara points to Montreal, for export to Great Britain, in 1910, the details of which are to be found in bulletin No. 27 of the Dairy and Cold Storage Series. We found that we got better results when the fruit was dispatched in iced freight cars than we did when it was sent by express without ice although it took one day longer to go by freight. The same thing will apply in the shipment of any fruit. The manner in which the packages are stowed in an iced car is of the greatest importance in securing the best results. The full benefit of the ice is lost unless there is provision for a free circulation of air from the ice bunkers and among the packages. Refrigerator cars are very often loaded so that there is little or no circulation of air, and in such a car the temperature will be uneven and much higher than it should be. This is one thing about which a great deal has yet to be learned by the average fruit shipper in this country. There is rather a common impression that the ice adds moisture to the air in a car, but that is not necessarily so, and if there is a good air circulation under and between the packages the air will be drier than it would be if there was no ice in the car at all. The moisture is carried by the circulating air to the ice bunker and deposited on the cold surface of the ice.

CHILLING OF EARLY APPLES AND TENDER FRUITS BEFORE SHIPMENT.

Peaches, plums and other soft fruits are not susceptible of being preserved for any length of time in cold storage. The best that can be done is to keep them in a firm condition for transportation and marketing at reasonable distances. The refrigerator car is good as far as it goes, but it is weak when depended on for prompt cooling. The proportion of ice to the contents of a full car is necessarily very small and when a car is filled with warm fruit, it takes too long to reduce the temperature. This is all the more noticeable if the car itself has not been chilled before the fruit is loaded. A temperature of 40 degrees may be considered about the minimum possible temperature in a refrigerator car in warm weather, but it seldom goes below 44 or 46 unless the heat is out of the fruit before it is loaded. If the fruit is warm when loaded into the car, it will take from two or three days to bring the temperature down and the car will have to be kept well iced in the meantime. All this time the ripening process is proceeding rapidly.

It is obvious that if any plan can be devised whereby the chilling of the fruit can be accomplished in a few hours instead of taking days, the fruit will carry much farther and in better condition. There is this further advantage that fruit which is to be promptly cooled after picking can be safely allowed to remain longer on the tree and thus reach a fuller development of its quality. The day is coming when the matter of quality will be more highly appreciated than it is in the present. Just now a great deal of emphasis is given, and I think justly so, to questions of appearance, packing and packages, but there will be more uniformity in this respect as time goes on and the other matter will come more to the front.

PRE-COOLING.

This brings us to the question of pre-cooling. I do not propose to enter into a history or a detailed description of this system, as you must all be fairly familiar with both. Nor will it be necessary to point out that the adoption of pre-cooling on a large scale has been confined almost entirely to the Pacific slope in the United States. The conditions under which this system has been developed, especially in California,

find no exact parallel in Canada, yet I am inclined to think that there is a limited scope for the operation of such plants in this country. The Niagara district probably offers the best opportunity for successful operation.

Pre-cooling may be carried out either by placing the fruit in a cold storage warehouse or by having it cooled in the car after it is loaded for shipment. It is the latter method which is attracting most attention as being the more practicable of the two. There is, however, no difference in principle and the system of car-cooling is favoured largely because it saves time and the extra handling of fruit in and out of the warehouse. In a simple car-cooling plant, no storage rooms are required. The cars are run into a shed adjoining the building which contains the refrigerating machinery, and by means of adjustable ducts, a stream of cold air is forced through the cars. The intake is usually attached to a side door and the return to each hatch at the top of the car. Thus the air is circulated between the bunker containing the expansion or cold coils and the car containing the fruit, transferring the heat from one place to the other. As the cars in most cases would require icing after the cooling is finished it would probably pay to manufacture the necessary supply on the spot, as the refrigerating machinery could be used for that purpose when there are no cars on hand to be cooled. The cost of manufacturing ice under ordinary ice factory conditions runs from about $1.35 to $1.50 per ton. It would be necessary if ice was manufactured, to provide refrigerated storage space for it. The pre-cooling of a car of fruit is equal to two or three tons of ice meltage, according to the quantity of fruit and the amount of heat which it contains when put in the car. This represents the saving in ice to be credited to pre-cooling, but of course the saving of ice is not the most important thing. The cooling of a car may be completed with a well equipped and properly designed plant in about 4 or 5 hours, and the number of cars that may be cooled at one time depends on the size of the plant. There is practically no limit to the number of cars that could be handled at one time.

Experienced engineers say that there should be about 12 tons of refrigeration for each car to be cooled. That is to say, if it is desirable to cool 10 cars at one time it will be necessary to have machinery with a capacity of about 120 tons of refrigeration in 24 hours. There are a number of rather complicated engineering questions involved in the construction and operation of a car-cooling plant, and it is advisable that the highest expert advice should be secured before anything of the kind is undertaken.

This brings me now to the third division of my subject:

THE COLD STORAGE OF FRUIT INTENDED FOR LONG KEEPING AND TO EXTEND THE SEASON FOR CHOICE VARIETIES.

It is one thing to keep apples merely from rotting and another thing to preserve them in that crisp juicy condition which adds so much to their value and encourages large consumption. Some varieties may be preserved in ordinary storage quite as long as it is desirable to keep them, but most of the standard varieties could be delivered to market in better condition and with less loss from decay if they were promptly cold stored after picking. I want to emphasize this point. It is of the highest importance that there should be as little delay as possible. A delay of one week between picking and storing will shorten the life of the apple even in cold storage by many weeks. This applies particularly to the early or quick ripening varieties. Any apple which is ripe enough to show signs of softening is past the stage for successful cold storage treatment. Any decay in the form of rots, especially the ordinary brown or soft rot, will be arrested very little, if arrested at all. Take the Northern Spy for instance. Well developed specimens with sound skins, and put away in time, will keep with the best but at the same time this variety is also very susceptible to rots if the skin is broken or injured in any way, and for this reason it frequently does not keep well in cold storage.

Apples which are well matured on the trees, but still firm, will keep better and longer than if picked at an earlier stage. Well matured apples show less tendency to scald. This is very marked in the case of the Greening. In tests which the department made in 1909-10 apples of this variety picked rather early at a certain date, scalded badly in cold storage while others from the same tree picked three weeks later were almost free of this rather serious defect. If the Greening has reached the stage when it shows a faint blush there is not apt to be much scalding. A good colour seems to be a great protection against scalding in all varieties. It follows therefore that late varieties of apples which are grown in localities where the season is longest and where they reach the greatest maturity on the trees, are the ones which will give the best results in cold storage. Our experience sustains that view. This becomes all the more important, when considered along with the well known fact that under what may still be termed as normal conditions of handling the apples grown in these localities are not noted for good keeping qualities. The same thing applies in general to a season like 1911 when the crop matured early on account of the hot weather. There are very general complaints about the poor keeping of apples this winter, and yet the 1911 crop possessed the very qualities which would have given good results in cold storage, providing the storing had not been too long delayed after picking, as was the case with some that I have heard of.

I believe that the repacking of barreled apples, which is now so generally practised in the frost-proof warehouses in Ontario and Nova Scotia, could be dispensed with if the apples were sent promptly to cold storage. In 1909 the Dairy and Cold Storage Branch made some trial shipments to test this matter. A carload of Spies and Baldwins was divided, one lot being put in a frost-proof warehouse and the other sent to cold storage, at St. John, N.B. The first lot was repacked but the cold storage lot was shipped without repacking. Both lots were sold together in Glasgow in the month of March. After paying the cold storage rates we found that the cold storage lot netted us from to 10 to 70 cents per barrel more than the others.

There were both No. 1 and No. 2 apples in these lots and it is interesting to note that the No. 1 apples gave the greatest gain in cold storage. Full particulars of these trial shipments will be found in bulletin No. 24 of the Dairy and Cold Storage Series. It may be of interest to add that one box of Spies from the cold storage lot was held for 18 months. The quality was well preserved and the apples stood up well after being removed to an ordinary room temperature. This box was held for the first six months at 32 degrees, and after that at 30. The latter is undoubtedly the best temperature but of course it is very near the danger line, and great care has to be taken at such an extreme low temperature to prevent some part of the storage room from reaching the freezing point of the apples.

Now I come to my last point, and that is the matter of extending the season for certain varieties. Of course we must consider carefully before we attempt to carry apples much past their regular season whether we are likely to find a profitable market for them or not. It would not be advisable to carry some varieties into the season for others of superior quality, but choice dessert apples like the Fameuse and McIntosh Red for instance will always find a market if in good condition. I mention these two varieties because I have made careful tests with them more than once, and have had no difficulty in keeping them in perfect condition until April or even into the month of May. The Gravenstein is another variety which responds to cold storage treatment. I do not know of any variety which is so much improved in carrying quality by prompt cooling after picking. The season for the Greening has been extended in New York State by at least two months. In the month of April 1910 the department sold 200 boxes of Greenings in Calgary after keeping them all winter in cold storage. Although apples of the colour of the Greening are not in demand in the western markets, these apples sold well because of their excellent condition. There was absolutely no waste, and the whole lot was sold in the original boxes as packed in the orchard. The King is another variety which does well in

cold storage especially if it is well coloured and stored promptly. Always with that proviso. In the fall of 1910 I procured 20 boxes from Mr. W. H. Bunting for the exhibition which was held in London in 1911. They were in perfect condition when shipped from Montreal in April last and were reported as having kept exceedingly well several weeks later.

There is evidently considerable difference in the behaviour of different varieties of apples in cold storage, and this phase of the subject offers a field for further investigation and study.

With respect to other fruits the pear probably is the one which is best adapted for successful handling in cold storage. Some varieties may be carried for several months in perfectly satisfactory condition. Many growers in the Hudson River Valley store a large part of their crops and market them in New York for the Christmas trade. The total quantity of pears carried in cold storage for several months every year in the United States is said to be nearly half a million bushels.

I am of the opinion that the season for special varieties of grapes might easily be extended very considerably with proper management. We have not had an opportunity to acquire much data in this connection, but in the fall of 1910 some twenty-five commercial baskets of 'Wilder' and 'Vergennes' were sent to the London Cold Storage and held at about 34 degrees. I had some of these grapes sent to Ottawa on March 8, and they were in very fair condition.

I hope some time to be able to secure facilities that will enable me to study the matter of grape and other fruit storage more carefully, because I feel that we have much to learn as to the most suitable temperatures, style of packing and other conditions of storage. It may not be out of place to say that opinion has changed with respect to the most suitable temperatures for carrying fruit, and it is now pretty well established that the lowest possible temperature without freezing will give the best results, and that a difference of one or two degrees will have a noticeable effect on the length of time that fruit will be preserved.

The actual freezing temperature of fruits will depend largely on the percentage of sugar in the juices. I do not think any apples will freeze at 30, but how much lower some varieties might be safely carried I am unable to say. Australian experts say that pears will keep best at 29 to 30 degrees, and that grapes grown in that country will stand even lower temperature because of a higher percentage of sugar. I think it is likely, however, that Australian grapes contain much more sugar than those grown in Canada do, because of the hotter climate in that country.

I have not attempted to do more in this paper than to show some of the possibilities of cold storage in relation to the fruit industry. There is of course another side to the question and that is the commercial one, as to how far the cost of cold storage will be balanced by increased returns in the sale of the fruit. This will have to be determined very largely by practical experience. I do not believe for a moment that it is necessary or desirable to provide cold storage for the whole of the Canadian apple crop. I have indicated some of the special ways in which it may be of great service. I believe that it would pay to refrigerate a large proportion of the so-called frost-proof warehouses now in use in Ontario and in Nova Scotia. This could be done at comparatively little cost as most of them are already fairly well insulated. Where there are two or more warehouses in a locality it would be quite practicable to operate them all from a central refrigerating plant with a pipe line system connecting with each warehouse. This plan could be carried out at places like Brighton and Colborne on Lake Ontario, and at many stations on the Dominion Atlantic Railway in Nova Scotia. It would be very economical both in the matter of equipment and operation.

It has always seemed to me, since I have been able to give any attention to such matters, that small cold storages using ice, or better still salt and ice as a refrigerant, would be of much service to individual growers, and especially in the tender fruit districts.

Now, Mr. Chairman, I have probably taken up as much of the time of the conference as this subject is entitled to, but I hope that the outline which I have given will be of some assistance to Canadian fruit growers in forming judgments with reference to cold storage matters.

Before I sit down, I would like to emphasize the point I made with respect to certain varieties being more suitable for cold storing than others. We have a very good illustration in this exhibit. There is a box of Cox's Orange Pippin. I need not tell you that when it is at its best it ranks among the world's best dessert apples. Now while these specimens have been perfectly preserved as far as appearance of decay is concerned, you have only to sample them to learn that the qualities that have made the variety famous have almost entirely disappeared. On the other hand, if you put the McIntosh or Fameuse to the test, you will find the quality well preserved, even though the apple begins to show signs of decay.

Mr. A. W. PEART.—Did you mention how long it would take to cool a car?

Mr. RUDDICK.—About four or five hours. The California plants are able to reduce the time to about three hours; owing to the nature of citrus fruit, they are able to use a much colder blast for oranges. They start at about eight degrees and the rind of the orange protects it from freezing. An air blast considerably below freezing point can be introduced while the fruit is still warm, but as it begins to cool off and get down to freezing in some parts of the car, the temperature must be raised. A great deal depends on the kind of fruit you are handling. Considerable time is consumed in making the connections to the car, probably about an hour, because everything has to be made air-tight. There are a good many details that have to be attended to.

Mr. CARRICK.—What about the cost of these plants?

Mr. RUDDICK.—I cannot give you a very definite answer on that. It depends on the size of the plant. We get most of our information from these large plants in California that cost $1,500,000 to erect and have about 500 tons of refrigeration. The cost of erecting the plant is the first consideration. That point was gone into with the engineers and it was estimated that a plant that would handle ten cars would cost $60,000 or $75,000. I would not undertake to give any exact figures.

Mr. PEART.—Would it be necessary to have that barrel perforated?

Mr. RUDDICK.—As to whether you should have open or tight packages is a question in which there is room for a good deal of discussion. There is no doubt the cooling would be facilitated by having perforations in the barrel, but then there is the objection that when the barrel is taken out of the cool atmosphere into a warm room, the perforations would provide for circulation through the barrel and you would have trouble with moisture on the fruit inside. I think the consensus of opinion is that the perforated barrel is not desirable. I do not imagine that cooling will ever be applied to barreled fruit. It is more particularly desirable for tender fruit and early fruit which is put up in boxes or baskets.

Mr. ALLEN.—I understand that Mr. Ruddick would not advise pre-cooling of fruit in the barrel?

Mr. RUDDICK.—I did not say that, but I do not think it is likely that you will be pre-cooling very much barrel fruit. If you are shipping early apples, it might be advisable to pre-cool them.

Mr. C. O. ALLEN.—Would you advise the co-operative societies formed in Nova Scotia to put a pre-cooling plant into their warehouses?

Mr. RUDDICK.—I could not answer that as a general statement. You would have to give me particulars of what you are going to do and how you are located and then I might be able to give you some advice.

Mr. ALLEN.—We are located in Nova Scotia and we are going to ship apples

Mr. RUDDICK.—I think it would be advisable to reduce the temperature of the fruit as quickly as possible after it is packed. If it is packed in warm weather, the fruit probably has a temperature of 80 degrees. We frequently find the inside of a barrel warmer than the outside and ripening goes on very rapidly under these conditions. If you can reduce the temperature and get enough heat out of the fruit—I do not mean to get it down to 32, but get it down to 50 degrees—that has a very great advantage even if it is not shipped in cold storage.

Mr. ALLEN.—We thought possibly if co-operative societies were formed, that one part of the hold of a steamer could be devoted to carrying that pre-cooled fruit and it would be a benefit during that entire trip across the Atlantic. I would like to have your opinion on that point.

Mr. RUDDICK.—I certainly think it would be a great advantage in shipping your early varieties, and I have said that on every possible occasion it would be a great advantage to have the fruit pre-cooled. Of course, when it is on a steamer and in a well ventilated hold, it is in a very much lower temperature than on land. I am inclined to think that if your fruit was well cooled and in a well ventilated hold, it would not require refrigeration on the ships.

Mr. GRIERSON.—Mr. Ruddick said something about connecting the present cold storage warehouses with a system. Could he give any idea as to the cost of that and how it could be done?

Mr. RUDDICK.—There is no limit to that. You can carry it for miles if you want to. It is simply a matter of putting down a pipe line to circulate the refrigerated brine. In some cities on the other side they have pipe lines five miles long carrying refrigeration to butcher shops and hotels. It is only a question of how far it would pay to carry it. The brine is circulated by a system of pumps. There is nothing new in that; it is quite an old established system of refrigeration.

Mr. R. W. SHEPHERD.—Mr. Chairman, pre-cooling of fruit has mixed advantages. I have had some experience in that line. Some years ago, I put a lot of Duchess apples in cold storage in barrels. They were picked a little on the green side and I intended to ship them to Liverpool in cold storage, and I left instructions for them to be shipped in cold storage, and afterwards was out of the city for a few days and when I got back I found they had been shipped in the ordinary compartment. They had been two weeks in cold storage, and were shipped on the 29th of August, and I expected that they would be a total loss on reaching Liverpool, but instead of that they were sold at a good profit and I realized fully $1 a barrel more than I could have got in Montreal after paying all expenses. My table fruits all go into cold storage, and I keep them in cold storage for two weeks before I ship them and I always ship them in the ordinary hold of the ship, and they arrive in good condition. I remember hearing Professor Van Deman, of Washington, state at one of the annual meetings of the Ontario Fruit Growers' Association, that by actual test, it took from ten days to two weeks for the apples in the interior of a barrel that had been in cold storage to get to the temperature of the room after they had been taken out of cold storage. I attribute the fact of the arrival of my apples in Liverpool in good condition to the fact that they had been in cold storage before shipping.

Mr. ALLEN.—I would like to ask Mr. Ruddick which he would approve of from a Nova Scotian standpoint, cold storage in the warehouses at the point of production or one general cold storage at the shipping port. In nearly every case, we find that the temperature runs up on board the ship and that is a very important point with us. This subject of pre-cooling that Mr. Ruddick has so ably presented to us is a very important one, and I would like to get all the information I can on these points.

Mr. Ruddick.—I certainly think that you should have warehouses at the stations you are shipping from. I have taken a very strong stand on that point. I do not think it would be advisable to ship fruit from the stations along the Dominion Atlantic railway and put it in cold storage for a few days at Halifax before loading it on the steamers. It would be better to put it into cold storage direct from your orchards and discharge from the cars direct to the ship. You can provide cold storage much cheaper in the country than in the city where the cost of everything is high. I do not think we ought to take up time discussing a local matter. I will be glad to discuss it with the Nova Scotia fruit growers at any time.

Mr. Allen.—Nova Scotia is shipping a large quantity of apples this year, and in three years from now will double the quantity, and it is a very important subject with us. We have been losing more money than the Dominion government has paid in subsidies for the carriage of fruit. It is an easy thing for the shippers from Ontario or Quebec, because you have eight and nine-day boats, but with us the steamers take from fifteen to eighteen days.

Dr. Bryce.—You will excuse me for seeming to be interested in a purely agricultural question. I have been studying the question of refrigeration for the last two or three years and the questions that have come up this morning are extremely interesting to me. The real question lying at the bottom of this matter is whether a dead apple, because it is dead when it is shipped, is like a dead animal, and what changes take place if it is not kept down to a low temperature. There is no question in my mind that it depends upon the immediate cooling of the fruit down to a point where the tissue changes will not take place—decomposition changes will not take place—as to whether the fruit is going to last more than a few days or be carried along for six months. The question I am interested in is whether the people of Canada are going to have the fruit, so necessary in our climate, distributed over a good portion of the winter weather so that the people can obtain the fruit that is so needful throughout the winter months, and the work I have seen in California points out that until pre-cooling in the car or warehouse is done at the point of production or nearby, there will be no great progress made in supplying our people with a first-class apple. It becomes a very large question from the standpoint of our own people and from the standpoint of the country as a whole, and I trust that the question of cold storage of our fruits will be kept up until we see what an important question the pre-cooling of fruit is.

Mr. Onslow.—I would like to ask whether the department has taken into its serious consideration the establishment of a pre-cooling plant in the Niagara district or whether they are thinking of assisting any association to establish one in that district?

Mr. Ruddick.—An application was made last autumn by a company in the Niagara district for assistance in establishing a pre-cooling plant. Their application did not come within the wording of the Cold Storage Act, yet it was considered that it was a similar matter and the minister decided that although he could not give the subsidy under the Act, he could put a special sum in the estimates and apply it in the terms of the Act and that was done and the offer was made to the company to pay them a subsidy on the basis of 30 per cent of the cost as is done in the case of cold storage warehouses. They were offered a contract on that basis which they have not yet signed.

QUESTION I.—FRUIT PACKAGES, SIZES, DIMENSIONS, &c.

The Chairman, Mr. J. A. Ruddick.—According to the first item on the programme, the question which comes up for discussion now is that of fruit packages, dimensions, legal sizes and so on. Various suggestions have been made in the form

of resolutions passed by Fruit Growers' Associations, and these have all been grouped under different headings. The British Columbia delegation has sent in a resolution on that subject. I have received two sets of resolutions from British Columbia delegates, one early in the summer and the other yesterday morning. This question with regard to the size of boxes involves several points. In the first place, they propose that the standard apple box be 10 x 11 x 20 inches for domestic as well as export shipment, and we will take that point up first.

W. W. HUBBARD.—What is the experience in Oregon and Washington?

The CHAIRMAN.—They use what they call 'The Northwest Special,' and that is our standard export box, and they also use a box which is 10¼ x 11½ x 18¼. It is a shorter box and a little wider.

A DELEGATE.—Is not that the size of the California pear box?

A VISITOR.—The size of the California box is 18¼ x 11½ x 8½. They do not use the same box for apples as for pears. The pear box is 18¼ x 11½ x 8½. It is the same as the apple box only 8½ inches deep instead of ten.

Mr. HAMILTON.—I suppose the purport of this motion is simply to change subsection 3 of clause 5 by striking out the words 'For Export,' and make it general.

The CHAIRMAN.—Yes. As a matter of fact, there is only one size in use now.

Mr. THOS. ABRIEL.—The reason we advocate the box 10 x 11 x 20 is that we have seen nothing better at the present time. If any delegate present knows of anything better, we would like to hear about it. We think 10 x 11 x 20 should be a standard box for all purposes. The delegation from British Columbia received instructions to vote for that size. It is a very important subject, and while that size may seem to be just what is wanted to-day, five years from now, we may have a different situation. In the North Western States they have had much more experience in handling boxes of fruit, and they find 10 x 11 x 18½ to be very suitable, and they are now considering making that the standard box for the United States. I think we should ponder over this matter carefully before we decide to legalize a box.

The CHAIRMAN.—The present box 10 x 11 x 20 is the legal size for export.

Mr. R. H. AGUR.—By standardizing the box, we will eliminate to a very large extent the waste from sawing up the material. If we could cover a sufficient number of standards, we might get the price of the boxes down a cent a package.

Mr. BUNTING.—I hesitate to express an opinion on this subject, because in Ontario we have had comparatively slight experience in packing in boxes. In the course of my trip during the last six months, I have conversed with various gentlemen in connection with this matter, more particularly with gentlemen in the west, and the point Mr. Agur has just brought up, I think, perhaps, is an important one at this juncture. There are a number of different sizes of boxes in use on the American side, and I understand there are two that are chiefly in use at the present time. One you have just referred to, 10½ x 11½ x 18¼, known as the Washington standard, and another 10 x 11 x 20 or 20⅝. I understand that 80 per cent of the boxes used are the former and only 20 per cent of the latter, and from this we would gather that perhaps the box we propose to standardize, 10 x 11 x 20, has not been found by the Washington and Oregon fruitgrowers as one of the most universally desirable for their purposes. It is just possible that, perhaps, as Mr. Agur has suggested, we should get a little more experience before we adopt any standard.

The CHAIRMAN.—As a matter of fact, practically all the apple boxes used in Canada at the present time are of the standard dimensions.

Mr. ROBERT THOMPSON.—There is another factor that has not been touched on: if we make the present box the legal box, it may affect shipping in car-load lots. We

have been shipping car-loads of boxes for the last two years and we found the same difficulty that the British Columbia people have found. If we are putting nothing else but apple boxes in the car, it may not make any difference, but we would have to have the same width for our pear boxes. We feel that it would not be wise at the present time to take any further action. I cannot see anything wrong in leaving the matter in abeyance for a year or two. We are going into competition with our American friends in the western market and we have got to meet them on equal terms. We may want to meet them with our fruit, which is superior and put up in superior boxes.

Prof. Blair.—I under-stand that in so far as the different size of boxes is concerned, it largely is a question of how the apples can be put into the box so that they will carry in the best manner. I have had some experience, and in order to give the boys packing work at the college, I have used both the Oregon and the Canadian standard. The Oregon standard is $18\frac{3}{4}$ x $10\frac{1}{2}$ x $11\frac{1}{2}$, and I find, invariably, that the boys can pack the box with greater ease than they can the Canadian box. Eighty per cent of the apples in Oregon are packed in that box, and I think there must be something in it. I think the matter should be carefully considered. I believe we should have the one standard throughout the whole Dominion.

Mr. Tappan Adney.—We find a great deal of difficulty in securing clear lumber for box making. There is a great deal to be said on the question of using up the waste material from the boxes. The makers say that if they could use the waste material, they could make the boxes cheaper and a difference of only two inches will make a considerable change and give us a better chance to get clear lumber. In the west where they have large trees and plenty of clear lumber, it does not matter so much, but a considerable saving would be effected by making the box length two inches shorter. We are confronted with the question as to whether we can make the heads in two parts or one part owing to our trees being so small. If the head is going to be made in two pieces, it does not matter so much whether it is an inch wider or not. I take the view that considerable economy could be effected if the manufacturer could use shorter lengths. Fully 10 per cent of the sides which have been made in St. John would not stand the pressure of the apples. The larger apples could only be packed in a very few ways in the narrow boxes. I think the wider box would be more convenient for the large fruit. If we could have uniformity of packages the same as our American friends, I think it would be very desirable.

Mr. A. W. Peart.—Mr. McNeill will remember that some fifteen years ago in the district where I live, our Co-operative Association used a box 9 x 12 x 18 inches, inside measurement, and we thought that was about the best box we could use. It meant four to the standard barrel. When the change was made in the size of the box, we were very much aggrieved. I think the size is purely an arbitrary matter. We now use the standard size, and we have adjusted ourselves to it, and we think it is all right for export purposes. If we have to compete with our American friends in the Northwest, I think it would be just as well to compete on equal terms and we could use the standard box for export purposes.

Mr. James Rooke.—Mr. James Gibb is an expert packer, I do not suppose there is any better in the Dominion, and he could clear this matter up better than anybody else, and I would like to hear him express his views.

Mr. Gibb.—There are slight advantages in both boxes. For the larger apple, the Oregon box has a slight advantage. The box we use at the present time has an advantage over the Oregon box for smaller apples. If we could get everybody in the Dominion educated to this box (10 x 11 x 20), I do not see any reason for adopting the Oregon box. We had that box five or six years ago, and it was discarded and this box used in its place. I really do not see any advantage in changing our present box. It answers all the requirements.

Mr. HAROLD JONES.—There was some discussion as to the size of boxes at a meeting of the Ontario Fruit Growers' Association some years ago. It was recognized that the consumer would like to know the quantity of apples he was purchasing and we passed a resolution adopting the present size 10 x 11 x 20. The cubic contents of a box 10 x 11 x 20 are 2,200 inches which is within twelve cubic inches of the Imperial bushel, so that we could quite honestly say to our consumers of the world at large, that our box of apples contained an Imperial bushel. Many of us feel that we want to recognize our Imperial bushel. We thought it was a strong point at that time, and I think the argument still holds good.

Mr. PITCAIRN.—One point that has been lost sight of is the desire to have everybody using the same size of box. Mr. Agur and I represent the same district of British Columbia. He might very well use a smaller box than I use, or a larger one, but I think it would be a distinct advantage to have everybody use the same size. There is nothing to prevent a fruit grower using any size of box he likes—a biscuit box if he likes—but I think it is desirable that we should have a box that would be absolutely legal for use in Canada. A buyer might get a car of apples destined for Winnipeg and might desire to send them to Australia or Great Britain and the government would say 'You cannot ship them in these boxes because they are not the legal size.' If we adopt a box 20 x 11 x 10, for the whole of Canada, then we will not have any trouble of that kind.

Going over the ground that Mr. Gibb has just gone over, the firm to which I have the honour to belong is perhaps the oldest shipping firm in British Columbia. We have tried both boxes. There was no serious objection to the box we had been using for five or six years, and we did not want to change it, but other people seemed to think this box was better and we reluctantly changed. No packing house likes to make a change of that kind because there is a great deal of trouble connected with it. There has been no serious objection taken to the box 20 x 11 x 10. Why not legalize it for the whole of Canada, for the trade within Canada as well as for export? I hold in my hand instructions from the British Columbia Fruit Growers' Association telling me to support this box. I was sent down here to support that box, and no harm will be done if that box is legalized for the whole of Canada. There is nothing to prevent some funny man making his box an inch shallower.

Mr. R. M. WINSLOW.—I am not hampered as was the last speaker, because although secretary of the British Columbia association, I am not as a delegate responsible to it. The six delegates are responsible to the association, but I am responsible only to the provincial government, and I think I may safely make a case for leaving the apple box question open for a couple of years. One month ago I had the honour to be at the Washington State Horticultural Convention at Clarkeson, Washington. They had been trying to pass a Bill which proposed the adoption, by the people of the United States, of a box clearly different from the one they are now using. The association is opposing that box, and they are bringing in a Bill to the United States Congress asking to have the box made 10½ x 11½ x 18½. One of the fundamental conditions of success of the fruit industry of British Columbia is that we must meet the American competition. At the present time, in the west, they secure nearly three-quarters of the trade, and as our fruit production increases we must gradually displace them. You will all recognize the fact that at the present time the American's strong point is in the fact that his box usually holds a pound or a pound and a half more fruit than ours does. The cubic capacity of his box is only three cubic inches greater than ours, but our box has one-seventh more surface. We have one-seventh more side to our box, so that we have a greater proportion of apples in sight, and that makes a finer talking point for the wholesale man and the consumer, than that the American box averages a little more weight.

We have no prospects of securing box material from the American side. In the State of Washington, they are coming rapidly to the short and wider box, and at the

Spokane Apple Show not more than 5 per cent or 2 per cent of their apples were exhibited in long boxes. They are using short boxes almost exclusively. At Hood River they use 50 per cent of the short boxes. With respect to this matter of packages, the final issue is one of economy. Standardization means economy of labour, economy of effort in putting up the fruit and the selling of it, and getting the material at the mills cheaper. At the present time, there is so much unrest in the States with regard to the size of the box that we are beginning to share that unrest in British Columbia, and I would ask you to think of the advisability of leaving the matter of the size of the packages over for investigation by means of some commission so that the matter may be brought up at the end of another two years with the view of some concrete decision that will not be materially altered in a few years.

Mr. CHAIRMAN.—We have had a good discussion on this point and you all seem to agree.

Mr. ADNEY.—We might take some action so as not to permit the packages to be made of less capacity than 2,200 inches.

The CHAIRMAN.—The next point is as to the pear boxes: 'Be it resolved that we recommend that a pear box 18¼ x 11 x 8½ inside be made the legal box for Canada.'

Mr. PITCAIRN.—I think you will find this proposed resolution will lead to very much the same discussion as has taken place on the apple box, and we might save time by referring it to the Resolution Committee without discussion.

The CHAIRMAN.—I think we had better hear what you have to say.

Mr. PITCAIRN.—This is the box that has been in use throughout the entire Pacific slope for a number of years, and there would be no question of changing it if it were not for the fact that our apple boxes were made 20 x 11 x 10 about six years ago. Many shippers are loading apples and pears in the same cars, and owing to the difference in the length, it is not very convenient to load. There are gentlemen here from St. Catharines who are very strong on this point. Someone will want to make the peach case a standard size. At present the peach case is the same length as the pear box and you will have to simply change everything. The trouble was caused originally by changing the apple box six years ago. I do not think there is any necessity for making an Act of Parliament about this matter.

In California, they are two generations ahead of us, and there is one generation difference between Oregon and Washington in the apple boxes. In pears California undoubtedly still leads the way. If you make a change as to pear boxes, you will have to change the peach box, because we ship peaches and pears in the same car. The longer you make the box, the weaker you make it. If a package is square, it is easier to get a thing into it than if it is long and narrow, and the smaller the package, the better for the fruit. This is found to be the best box for pears.

Mr. PEART.—Mr. Chairman, in regard to the pear box, the people in the district where I live have very strong views. We grow a great many pears in the Burlington district, and we have been exporting them to the old country for a great many years. We have always used a box in breadth and length the same size as the apple box for the reason that it sometimes happens we run out of apple box covers or pear box covers and we can use one in place of the other. What our people want is—supposing the apple box is left the way it is, and I think it should be 10 x 11 x 20, inside measurement—then we want the pear box of the same dimensions as the apple box in breadth and length and a different dimension in depth. We now use a box four and five inches deep. I do not think the time has come in the history of pear growing in Canada when we should have any legislation in regard to it.

The CHAIRMAN.—Would not two of your pear boxes make more than the depth of one apple box?

Mr. PEART.—We use the four-inch box with two layers for Bartlett pears and we put the Duchess pears in the large box. We do not want to be compelled to use a certain box for pears unless there are two or three depths suggested.

Mr. THOMPSON.—The same arguments which have been advanced with regard to the apple box hold good with regard to not taking any action as to the pear box. It simply disarranges everything. It is utterly impossible to load a mixed lot of boxes of varying lengths and have them loaded so that they cannot shift. If no action is taken with regard to the apple box, no action should be taken in the meantime with regard to the pear box. It is a matter for investigation so as to find out which box gives the best satisfaction. The great bulk of our fruit in Ontario for years to come will be in competition with the American fruit, and I think the matter should be left over.

Mr. AGUR.—We find in British Columbia that the size you have in the resolution, 18¼ x 11 x 8¼, is giving the best satisfaction, and that is the box they are using in California. The remarks that apply to the apple box, apply equally to the pear box.

Mr. BUNTING.—I do not think I can add anything to the discussion. I agree that the matter should be left in abeyance.

The CHAIRMAN.—It seems to be the consensus of opinion that nothing should be done in connection with these boxes. The matter will be taken cognizance of by the Resolution Committee. There is a proposal that the pear box 8½ x 11 x 18¼ be adopted for the standard box for crab apples.

Mr. R. C. ABBOTT.—I think the resolution reads that the pear box should be the same size as the crab apple box. At the present time, we ship quite a few crab apples from British Columbia, and we have just about as many sizes of boxes as we have crab apples, and just about as many different quotations, and it creates a great deal of trouble. I will send out quotations on crab apples with the intention of shipping them in pear boxes. My neighbour will send out quotations the same as mine, but he ships in apple boxes, and we both happen to ship to the same customer. In another case, the crab apples may be sent in peach boxes, and in some cases in biscuit boxes. We would like to have a legal crab apple box which would be the legal pear box, so that the same amount of crabs would be shipped in each case.

Mr. WINSLOW.—I think the convention fully realizes that the whole box question hangs on the apple box, and as the question of the apple box is to be referred back, I would suggest that the other boxes be referred back to the committee, so that they will bring in resolutions that will be in harmony.

Mr. PITCAIRN.—I think a special committee should be appointed to discuss that matter. The Resolution Committee have a good deal to do, and we should appoint some small committee that would deal with it more rapidly. I am not sufficiently familiar with the gentlemen in the room to suggest a committee, but I beg to move that a small committee be appointed to bring in a resolution relative to all the fruit packages.

THE STANDARD APPLE BARREL.

The CHAIRMAN.—There are other package questions to be considered. Nova Scotia proposes a change in the standard size of the apple barrel. Probably we had better finish the discussion first and then appoint that committee.

Mr. C. O. ALLEN.—Our stand is to oppose any change in the size of the apple barrel. We had a copy of a resolution sent to our societies and the Fruit Growers' Association, stating that a delegation from Quebec was going to propose a standard of 112 quarts, and Prince Edward Island has a resolution on this subject. I would like to have our resolution deferred.

The CHAIRMAN.—I should have asked Prince Edward Island to bring up their proposed change first.

Mr. A. E. DEWAR.—I am responsible for bringing this up at the conference. The question was forced upon us by the market. We got our barrels from New Brunswick and we shipped them to England, and I asked for a report on the condition of our apples as to whether they arrived in good condition. They were selling for very good prices. New Brunswick apples were in similar barrels, and did not bring as good a price as the Ontario and Virginia apples, and at the same time the fruit was not any less on account of their being in small barrels. In Ontario they get a great many orders for flour barrels and sugar barrels, and they fix the size of their apple barrels to suit these other barrels and Nova Scotia may just as well recognize the fact that they will be forced to use a larger barrel. They get a smaller price for the smaller barrel, and they will have to use a larger one even on our local market. The same variety of apples in an Ontario barrel will bring 50 cents more than the Nova Scotia barrel, and that is the reason that Prince Edward Island desires one legal barrel in Canada. I do not intend to use the Nova Scotia barrel for the export business if I can get Ontario barrels.

I do not like the round hoop; I will pay more for flat hoops. The coopers make up the barrels when the staves are only half dry and when we get them the hoops are slack, and if you do not drive them down, they will come off. The hoops of Nova Scotia barrels are cut out of green stock and the hoop is not round, it is oblong. I am very much in favour of the Ontario make of barrel. About three months ago in the Trade and Commerce report of Glasgow, they discussed this barrel question, and they decided that the Ontario barrel was the better.

Mr. ROBERT BRODIE.—We have had some experience in Montreal. A few shipments of Nova Scotia apples came into some of our commission houses in competition with our apples. I asked some of the Montreal merchants who bought the apples about them, and they were really fine apples, but the barrels were much smaller than the Ontario and Quebec barrels, and they hold about fifteen pounds less. I think there should be a standard size.

Mr. SHEPHERD.—What is the capacity of the Ontario barrel?

The CHAIRMAN.—About 112 quarts. There is no maximum standard, it is a minimum standard and that is supposed to be about equal to the Nova Scotia barrel, 96 quarts.

Mr. ALLEN.—We are using the size specified in the Fruit Marks Act, and we have used that barrel year after year and we think we should not be asked to change the size of the package against our will, and we do not propose to interfere with the size of the barrel that the other provinces use. A Prince Edward Island delegate has said that he prefers the Ontario barrel because they save so much in transportation. It is not reasonable to suppose that the steamship companies are going to carry twenty pounds of fruit for nothing. They charge by ton measurement or ton dead weight. Take the crop of apples in Nova Scotia this year—a million and a half barrels—and if we had put them into barrels containing one-sixth more, we would have had 250,000 less barrels.

The CHAIRMAN.—It would take you longer to reach the two million mark.

Mr. ALLEN.—It is not reasonable to suppose the steamships are going to carry these 250,000 barrels for nothing. They will raise their rates if we make the barrel larger. The moment we undertake to send over 250,000 barrels of apples for nothing, the steamship companies are going to get together and make us pay more for carrying these barrels.

In order that this conference may carry any weight, we must all agree. We protest against any change being made in the Nova Scotia barrel because we claim it is

the standard barrel. It is the minimum, and if Ontario wants to use the maximum they can do so. Any gentleman who has been over to Great Britain knows that you cannot buy a gallon of molasses in England; it is bought by the pound, and do you suppose they are going to pay any more per pound for fruit in 112 quart barrels than they do for 96 quart barrels? The people of England are not paying for the bulk, they are paying for pound weight in fruit.

The Prince Edward Island delegate referred to our barrels being made of green stock. If Prince Edward Island and Ontario had shipped as many barrels as we did this year, they would have been glad to get even green stock. We believe in home missionary work; we do not believe in using all the green barrels at home and sending the good ones over to Prince Edward Island.

We do not propose to fix any standard for boxes until the British Columbia delegates are satisfied, and I think they will agree with us that we know the situation with regard to our apple barrels. We have been shipping our small barrels to London and the trade has become educated to them, and we are educating the people in the northern markets of Europe with regard to the size of our barrels. We propose sending them the same size of barrels and we would ask you not to interfere with us in doing so.

Mr. HODGETTS.—I have the report of the United States Consul for the Edinburgh market and he gives some figures, and his note on the standard variety of apples in barrels is as follows: Ontario apples, No. 1, vary from 140 to 144 pounds net in the barrel with the exception of a variety which runs three pounds heavier; the No. 2 variety vary from 147 to 154, so you see that the average of the Ontario barrel has very little difference in the varieties. The Nova Scotia apples, taking the five varieties, the No. 1 vary from 120 to 126 pounds to the barrel, a difference of six pounds; No. 2, 126 to 133 pounds, a difference of seven pounds. The price is given for Baldwins, No. 1, Ontario apples, $4.62; Nova Scotia, $3.16, that is a difference of $1.46 for a difference in weight of 18 pounds on the No. 1 apples. I think the Ontario delegates are united in asking that our barrel be not interfered with, and we are quite content to let the Nova Scotia men take the smaller barrel under these conditions. I know they will not concede that there is any difference in the quality and we are quite content to take that extra price for the 18 pounds.

Mr. ALLEN.—I said in the beginning that we had gone about this thing intelligently. We have shipped a lot in Ontario barrels, and we are carrying on an experiment now with Ontario barrels, but at this particular stage of the situation, we would ask you to leave this question in abeyance until after we have worked out the result for ourselves. We have a number of Ontario barrels shipped side by side in the same boat with our barrels, all from the same co-operative society, and when the returns come back, we will be able to tell which gives us the most money.

The CHAIRMAN.—This question will be left with the Resolution Committee.

PROF. BLAIR.—I think it is very important that we should have one size in the Dominion for apple barrels and this should be fixed by law. I do not believe in this idea of having one size in Nova Scotia and another one in Ontario. We should be able to get together and decide as to which is the best size, the 96 quarts or 112. I have always been of the opinion that a large proportion of the fruit shipped to the Montreal market from Ontario was in the 96 quart barrels.

The CHAIRMAN.—No, I do not think so.

Mr. MCNEILL.—No.

Mr. R. J. GRAHAM.—I am sent here by the Apple Shippers' Association and I am not a regular delegate. As the manufacturer of cooperage stock, I would like to say that as far as our experience goes—and I presume we know a good deal about that end of the business—the staves in Ontario for apple barrels are made thirty

inches in length and they are jointed into what we call five-eighths or nine-twelfths, and that makes the barrel a little larger or smaller on account of the way the stave is cut in the mill. I think the system should be changed with regard to the way the barrel is measured. The head should be measured before it is in the barrel and the onus should be on the manufacturer of cooperage stock to make the barrels with uniform heads.

If any of you gentlemen will go over to the Dominion Fruit Exchange to-morrow, you will find the Nova Scotia barrels and Ontario barrels put up at public auction, and you will have a chance to see the different prices they bring and to compare the Nova Scotia barrels with Nova Scotia barrels and Ontario barrels with Ontario barrels. I have had a good deal of experience with Nova Scotia apples, and I regret to say that the barrel is not a uniform barrel by any manner of means. The staves manufactured by Mr. Shand of Windsor, who is a large manufacturer, are 29½ inches in length and the bulk of the staves used in Nova Scotia are 28½ inches, and their heads vary from 16½ to 17 inches, and you will find those barrels at the Fruit Exchange if you will go over and look at them. Somebody should see that the cooperage stock is cut uniformly. If Ontario is to have one standard and Nova Scotia another, it is quite satisfactory so long as the people interested are satisfied, but there should be a uniform barrel in Nova Scotia and a uniform barrel in Ontario, or a uniform barrel altogether. I think this is a matter that this conference should take up in an active way. As far as I know there are no officers of the law making any attempt to complain of those who are making a barrel under the 96-quart size, and a great many of the Nova Scotia barrels are below the standard. The Nova Scotia barrel is a strong package and a good carrying package, but whether you make it larger or smaller it should be made uniform.

The CHAIRMAN.—What about the point raised as to the Ontario barrel only containing 96 quarts?

Mr. GRAHAM.—That is a mistake. I do not think there is any doubt about that. A few people may be using a stingy barrel in Ontario, and I must confess there are a few people in Ontario who are still using a stingy barrel, but there are a great many people in Nova Scotia using a stingy barrel, the great majority of the people in Nova Scotia are using a stingy barrel, and I hope they will get over that system both in Ontario and Nova Scotia. 95 per cent of the barrels used in Ontario are the full size, thirty inches in length.

Mr. ALLEN.—With regard to the stingy barrel, that has only been used within the last couple of years by some of the fruit growers.

Mr. PITCAIRN.—I bought a large orchard and I mentioned apple barrels to the man from whom I bought it. He happened to be versed in the law, and when I shipped Ontario barrels containing more than 96 quarts, he immediately objected, and of course, I was in a queer position. I did not know that our barrel was that much larger. He could have forced me to get the standard apple barrel or pay him the difference.

The CHAIRMAN.—No, I do not think he could do that under the law. There is no standard apple barrel, there is only the minimum fixed. It does not compel you to use that size. Such a case would be governed by the practice in the locality.

Mr. ALLEN.—There is no analogy between the Ontario situation and Nova Scotia. In Ontario you use the same staves for flour barrels and apple barrels. The No. 1 staves go into the flour barrels and the No. 2 staves into the apple barrels. In Nova Scotia, we have apple and potato barrels, and any man who has ever loaded a car of potatoes, five tiers high, knows that our potato barrels are plenty heavy enough. The potato barrel is a serious consideration with us. We only grew four million bushels of potatoes five or six years ago, and we have doubled that the present year.

I think the statistics from the government books show about nine million bushels of potatoes, and we have to ship these potatoes to the West Indies in barrels.

Mr. R. J. MESSENGER.—I want to say a word in support of what Prof. Blair has said. It should be the desire of such a conference as this, if we want our Canadian products to be known as Canadian, to have them packed in a uniform way, and by doing that we will get a name that will be a credit to Canada. I do not see why we cannot have uniformity all over Canada. At the last conference, we were unanimous on the 96-quart barrel. We have heard from apple shippers and apple purchasers, and it is only natural that they should want a larger package. If we shipped apples in hogsheads, we would get a bigger price for them, but from the point of view of easy handling and from the point of view of less fruit in the future, and from another point that seems to have been overlooked, and that is that if you adopt the same size of barrel, there will be no distinction and the price will be the same, and there will be no cry that we will be getting a smaller price for the Nova Scotia apples. I think it would be wise to have a uniform barrel for the whole Dominion. Some purchasers have gone as far as to say that the Nova Scotia barrel is the best. I believe that if we had nothing but the hobble skirt for a while, we would all be in favour of the hobble skirt. We know that from the Ontario standpoint, they are asking for the larger barrel because they get it cheaper by using the No. 2 stave from the flour barrels, and they also made the contention that the manufacturer's machinery is better for making the larger barrels, but that is merely a theoretical objection because they could change the machinery with very little expenditure. I think our barrel is a pretty good size. It holds three bushels as nearly as possible, and holds three apple boxes as nearly as possible.

Mr. ERIN JAMES.—The thirty-inch stave is the one generally used in Ontario, but take the district from Hamilton to Niagara Falls, and it is impossible to sell a thirty-inch stave there. The growers have got into the habit of selling apples by the barrel and if a buyer wants to put in an honest barrel, in order to satisfy the grower, he has got to get a 28½ inch stave and we simply have to edge these staves off to accommodate that district. We also ship 28½-inch staves to Quebec. I exported apples for thirteen years and I would never use a small barrel. I do not see anything in the contention of my friend, Captain Allen, as to the difference in freight. They are paying as much freight for their small barrel as we pay for the large one. I have just returned from England and the apples are not landed there in good shape. As far as the price is concerned, the Londoners will possibly give as much for a small barrel as they will for a larger one, but if Nova Scotia is going to have two million barrels, and if she is going to be the apple-growing centre of Canada, she will have to put her apples in other markets outside of London, and will certainly have to take less than we get for the Ontario apples. The bulk of our apples are sold in green grocery stores and are sold by the pound, and the average buyer knows what a barrel contains. I should like to see a standard barrel for Ontario.

Mr. THOMPSON.—This matter was up at the last conference and the law was made as at present. I received returns not over two weeks ago of some apples, and where they used the short stave, they did not bring within 45 cents a barrel as much as where they used the longer stave.

The CHAIRMAN.—This barrel question has been discussed freely and it will now be left with the Resolution Committee.

Another point has been suggested for discussion, and that is a resolution by British Columbia that a four-layer plum crate, 15¾ x 15¾ x 4½ inside, be made legal for Canada. Is that right?

Mr. ABBOTT.—There is no use wasting time discussing it. We have several different sizes of plum baskets. We want to get a uniform size.

Mr. Hodgetts.—The Ontario men will vote in line with the British Columbia men in this respect.

Mr. Thompson.—What about a resolution asking the Dominion government to have forms issued so as to have a uniform size of fruit basket: 'That the Dominion government be requested to have the forms issued to basket manufacturers so as to insure uniform size of fruit baskets'?

Moved by Mr. Pitcairn and seconded by Mr. Abriel that the following special committee, consisting of D. Johnson, R. Thompson, J. N. Chute, C. O. Allen, Robt. Brodie, R. M. Winslow, Jas. Rooke, A. G. Turney, A. E. Dewar, be appointed to consider this package question, and that all points that have been suggested should be referred to them. (Carried.)

Mr. Jones.—The proposal of Ontario to have forms issued for basket manufacturers so as to have uniform size of fruit baskets might be referred to the same committee.

Mr. Thompson.—I do not think there is any difference of opinion as to that.

The Chairman.—I certainly think we have had a very good discussion and all the points seem to have been covered.

The Hon. Martin Burrell.—The Duke of Connaught is coming here at three o'clock and I am very anxious that my fruit-growing friends should turn out in full force. His Royal Highness is very greatly interested in the progress of the country, but it is not always easy to get him at functions of this kind, and, therefore, I feel it rather a point of honour to see that we get out in strong force and give him a rousing reception. It has not been advertised, for the simple reason that if we did, we would have the hall filled to suffocation. We would like him to feel that this is an important gathering of the great national interests of fruit growing from all over Canada and is composed of the finest body of men that can be picked up anywhere. I want you to live up to that as far as it is possible for you to do so. His Royal Highness will be here sharp at three o'clock, and will be glad to say a few words and remain a while to listen to the discussion.

Meeting adjourned.

Thursday, February 15, 1912.
2.30 p.m.

Afternoon Session.

This session was made notable by the fact that His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught, Governor General of Canada, favoured the conference with his presence, making an address and remaining for a considerable time listening to the discussions.

Commissioner J. A. Ruddick occupied the chair.

The Chairman.—I want to call your attention to this crate. (Showing an arrangement of three shallow cases fastened together with neat iron clips.) It is similar to the one we used in shipping peaches to the old country. It takes little time to bind the three cases together and they are held very strongly. The clips cost very little, and having the three cases bound together in this way makes it a very convenient package to handle.

A Member.—What do they cost?

The CHAIRMAN.—The cases cost 7 cents, or 21 cents for three. There is a great advantage in having them put together in that way, because it saves a lot of handling and many of the companies charge so much per package and when they are bound together in this way they go together as one.

The first item on our programme is some 'fruit statistics' gleaned from the recent census, to be presented by Mr. W. W. Moore, Chief of the Markets Division of the Dairy and Cold Storage Branch. You have all received a copy of these figures which Mr. Moore has compiled. He is prepared to make some comment and I will ask him to do so at this time.

SOME FRUIT STATISTICS GLEANED FROM THE RECENT CENSUS

W. W. MOORE, Esq.,
Chief of the Markets Division

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen:

At the last conference held six years ago, Mr. A. W. Peart, of Burlington, Ontario, presented some interesting and valuable statistics of the fruit growing industry of Canada compiled from the censes of 1901, and he included therewith an estimate of the acreage, the number of trees and the values for the year 1905. The returns of the census of 1911, in so far as they relate to the fruit industry, have not yet been made public, but having this conference in view the Census Branch has been rushing work on the fruit statistics and, through the kindness of the chief officer, Mr. Blue, I have had access during the last few days to the schedules dealing with the area under orchard, vineyard and small fruits, and the number of fruit trees and their products for each province with the exception of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta. Please note, therefore, that the totals on the first page of the statement handed to you to-day are not altogether complete for Canada on account of the omission of the three provinces mentioned. In the statement referred to you will find not only the figures of last year's census but also those of the census of 1901, together with the actual and the percentage of increase or decrease for each group during the decade. Values are not included, as the Census Branch has not yet completed that information, but Mr. Blue hopes to have figures ready in time so that I may be able to include them in the printed report of this conference. Under these circumstances I did not think it worth while to attempt to work out in detail an estimate of the capital value of the industry for each province, but, largely for my own satisfaction, I did make an estimate for the six provinces as a whole, which I shall give you for what it is worth. According to my calculation, the total capital value of the fruit growing industry in British Columbia, Ontario, Quebec and the Maritime Provinces is, in round numbers, $127,000,000. This estimate is based on the following scale of values:—

Apple trees, bearing, per tree, $8; non-bearing, $3.
Peach, pear and plum trees, bearing, $5 per tree; non-bearing, $2.50.
Cherry trees, bearing, $6 per tree; non-bearing, $3.
Other fruit trees, bearing, $4 per tree; non-bearing, $2.
Vineyards and small fruits, $400 per acre.

At the conference of 1906, Mr. Peart arrived at an estimate of the number of fruit trees then in Canada by adding 10 per cent to the figures of the census of 1901, but according to the census taken last year instead of an increase since 1901, there has been an actual decrease of 315,641 trees or 1·4 per cent caused by a tremendous slump of over two million in the bearing trees, which was not quite offset by the increase in the non-bearing trees. The production of all classes of tree fruits also shows a decrease, but I am not disposed to attach much importance to that because I do not

believe that the progress or otherwise of the fruit growing industry can be safely gauged by comparing the quantity produced in one census year with that of another. As you all know, the size of the fruit crop depends largely on climatic conditions, and if one census happens to be taken in a 'full year,' and another in an 'off year,' any comparison is valueless. In 1910 Canada had a very light crop of fruit and as the figures of production in the 1911 census refer to the crop of the preceding year, the heavy shrinkage shown should not be unexpected. It is for these reasons that I have not worked out the percentage of increase or decrease during the past decade in the product but have confined my calculation to the number of fruit trees, as I believe that it is here that the true comparison lies.

(Following is the statement which was presented to the members of the conference by Mr. Moore.)

Comparative Statistics of the Fruit Growing Industry in Canada, years 1901 and 1911, (Provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta not included.) From Census Returns.

—		1901.	1911.	Increase or Decrease.		Per cent of Increase or Decrease.
Orchard and nursery	Acres.	355,320	376,322	Inc.	21,002	Inc. 5·9
Vineyard	"	5,595	10,411	"	4,816	" 86·0
Small fruits	"	(not given)	17,643			
Apple trees	No.	15,043,054	14,830,492	Dec.	212,562	Dec. 1·4
Bearing	"	11,023,998	9,453,775	"	1,570,223	" 14·2
Non-bearing	"	4,019,056	5,376,717	Inc.	1,357,661	Inc. 33·7
Product	Bush.	18,624,128	10,384,985			
Peach trees	No.	1,301,775	1,884,459	Inc.	582,684	Inc. 44·7
Bearing	"	819,985	849,634	"	29,649	" 3·6
Non-bearing	"	481,790	1,034,825	"	553,035	" 114·7
Product	Bush.	545,415	543,485			
Pear trees	No.	962,101	951,896	Dec.	10,205	Dec. 1·0
Bearing	"	617,293	584,963	"	32,330	" 5·2
Non-bearing	"	344,808	366,933	Inc.	22,125	Inc. 6·4
Product	Bush.	531,837	494,474			
Plum trees	No.	2,369,638	1,692,871	Dec.	676,767	Dec. 28·5
Bearing	"	1,427,932	1,066,903	"	361,029	" 25·2
Non-bearing	"	941,706	625,968	"	315,738	" 33·5
Product	Bush.	555,810	475,949			
Cherry trees	No.	1,272,274	1,211,911	Dec.	60,363	Dec. 4·7
Bearing	"	894,949	722,886	"	172,063	" 19·2
Non-bearing	"	377,325	489,025	Inc.	111,700	Inc. 29·6
Product	Bush.	336,052	224,785			
Other fruit trees	No.	179,355	240,927	Inc.	61,572	Inc. 34·3
Bearing	"	141,870	116,196	Dec.	25,674	Dec. 18·0
Non-bearing	"	37,485	124,731	Inc.	87,246	Inc. 232·7
Product	Bush.	70,396	56,358			
Total fruit trees	No.	21,128,197	20,812,556	Dec.	315,641	Dec. 1·4
Bearing	"	14,926,027	12,794,357	"	2,131,670	" 14·2
Non-bearing	"	6,202,170	8,018,199	Inc.	1,816,029	Inc. 29·2
Grapes	Lbs.	24,301,324	36,999,296	"	12,697,972	" 52·2
Strawberries	Qts.	} 21,535,424	13,909,163	} "	2,932,887	" 13·6
Currants and gooseberries	"		3,109,372			
Other small fruits	"		7,449,776			

ONTARIO.

AREA under orchard, vineyard, &c.; number of fruit trees and their products in the provinces of Ontario, Nova Scotia, Quebec, British Columbia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island in the census years 1901 and 1911.

—		1901.	1911.	Increase or Decrease.	Per cent of Increase or Decrease.
Orchard and nursery	Acres.	267,112	271,666	Inc. 4,554	Inc. 1·7
Vineyard	"	5,440	9,069	" 3,629	" 66·7
Small fruits (estimated for 1901)	"	8,116	13,940	" 5,824	" 71·7
Apple trees	No.	9,542,619	7,766,257	Dec. 1,775,362	Dec. 18·6
Bearing	"	7,551,636	5,643,217	" 1,908,419	" 25·2
Non-bearing	"	1,989,983	2,123,040	Inc. 133,057	Inc. 6·6
Product	Bush.	13,631,264	6,305,462	.....	.....
Peach trees	No.	1,282,497	1,681,853	Inc. 399,356	Inc. 31·1
Bearing	"	811,725	803,417	Dec. 8,308	Dec. 1·0
Non-bearing	"	470,772	878,436	Inc. 407,664	Inc. 86·5
Product	Bush.	539,482	503,075	.....	.....
Pear trees	No.	844,973	739,720	Dec. 105,253	Dec. 12·4
Bearing	"	564,798	511,512	" 53,286	" 9·4
Non-bearing	"	280,175	228,208	" 51,967	" 18·5
Product	Bush.	487,759	417,397	.....	.....
Plum trees	No.	1,685,719	1,124,022	Dec. 561·697	Dec. 33·3
Bearing	"	999,091	767,827	" 231,264	" 23·1
Non-bearing	"	686,628	356,195	" 330,433	" 48·1
Product	Bush.	337,108	331,278	.....	.....
Cherry trees	No.	684,348	835,737	Inc. 151,389	Inc. 22·1
Bearing	"	446,556	507,396	" 60,840	" 13·6
Non-bearing	"	237,792	328,341	" 90,549	" 38·0
Product	Bush.	132,177	137,281	.....	.....
Other fruit trees	No.	48,780	105,229	Inc. 56,449	Inc. 115·7
Bearing	"	38,517	50,569	" 12,052	" 31·2
Non-bearing	"	10,263	54,660	" 44,397	" 432·5
Product	Bush.	40,108	33,181	.....	.....
Total fruit trees	No.	14,087,936	12,252,818	Dec. 1,835,118	Dec. 13·0
Bearing	"	10,412,323	8,283,938	" 2,188,385	" 20·4
Non-bearing	"	3,675,613	3,968,880	Inc. 293,267	Inc. 7·9
Grapes	Lbs.	23,156,478	36,615,877	" 13,459,399	" 58·1
Strawberries	Qts.	16,232,020	9,386,135	" 2,017,687	" 12·4
Currants and gooseberries	"		2,019,319		
Other small fruits	"		6,844,253		

NUMBER of bearing and non-bearing apple trees in certain districts of Ontario in 1901 and 1911, and increase or decrease in the decade.

District.	Bearing.			Non-bearing.		
	1901.	1911.	Increase or Decrease.	1901.	1911.	Increase or Decrease.
Bruce—N. & S.	311,990	250,448	Dec. 61,542	53,725	45,034	Dec. 8,691
Durham	188,943	84,942	" 104,001	70,989	171,564	Inc. 100,575
Elgin—E. & W.	297,771	192,164	" 105,607	38,757	26,082	Dec. 12,675
Essex—N. & S.	212,659	149,747	" 62,912	42,421	45,247	Inc. 2,826
Grey—E. N. & S.	384,703	360,541	" 24,162	159,204	68,982	Dec. 90,222
Huron—E. S. & W.	347,903	359,445	Inc. 11,542	65,736	58,839	" 6,897
Kent—E. & W.	192,081	207,138	" 15,057	39,394	32,512	" 6,882
Lambton—E. & W.	254,623	296,324	" 41,701	47,833	44,674	" 3,159
Lennox and Addington	142,443	109,254	Dec. 33,189	66,685	20,303	" 46,382
Middlesex—E. N. & W.	328,620	313,915	" 14,705	41,179	47,973	Inc. 6,794
Norfolk	275,454	85,856	" 189,598	30,524	141,362	" 111,838
Northumberland—E. & W.	312,422	445,547	Inc. 133,125	178,077	317,202	" 139,125
Oxford—N. & S.	243,070	190,371	Dec. 52,699	34,031	60,080	" 26,049
Prince Edward	235,185	177,028	" 58,157	121,108	126,761	" 5,653
Simcoe—E. N. & S.	265,785	251,709	" 14,076	139,302	78,277	Dec. 61,025
Welland	117,449	156,933	Inc. 39,484	5,530	11,654	Inc. 6,124
Wentworth	209,213	190,293	Dec. 18,920	17,784	33,730	" 15,946

NOVA SCOTIA.

—		1901.	1911.	Increase or Decrease.	Per cent of Increase or Decrease.
Orchard and nursery	Acres.	34,277	42,069	Inc. 7,792	Inc. 22·7
Vineyard	"	10	153	" 143	" 1430·0
Small fruits	"	(not given)	269		
Apple trees	No.	1,975,575	2,465,032	Inc. 490,057	Inc. 24·8
Bearing	"	1,003,745	1,592,103	" 388,358	" 32·2
Non-bearing	"	771,830	873,529	" 101,699	" 13·1
Product	Bush.	2,065,104	1,653,609		
Peach trees	No.	10,497	5,206	Dec. 5,291	Dec. 50·4
Bearing	"	4,482	2,960	" 1,522	" 33·9
Non-bearing	"	6,015	2,246	" 3,769	" 62·6
Product	Bush.	3,231	1,082		
Pear trees	No.	56,100	62,881	Inc. 6,181	Inc. 11·0
Bearing	"	21,014	37,173	" 16,159	" 76·8
Non-bearing	"	35,086	25,108	Dec. 9,978	Dec. 28·4
Product	Bush.	14,881	23,672		
Plum trees	No.	172,445	90,285	Dec. 82,160	Dec. 47·6
Bearing	"	93,790	52,652	" 41,138	" 43·8
Non-bearing	"	78,655	37,633	" 41,022	" 52·1
Product	Bush.	28,931	16,953		
Cherry trees	No.	92,036	44,682	Dec. 17,354	Dec. 27·9
Bearing	"	43,153	31,032	" 12,121	" 28·0
Non-bearing	"	18,883	13,650	" 5,233	" 27·7
Product	Bush.	16,669	10 015		
Other fruit trees	No.	18,127	3,887	Dec. 14,240	Dec. 78·5
Bearing	"	14,806	2,859	" 11,947	" 80·6
Non-bearing	"	3,321	1,028	" 2,293	" 69·0
Product	Bush.	2,229	1,579		
Total fruit trees	No.	2,294,780	2,671,973	Inc. 377,193	Inc. 16·4
Bearing	"	1,380,990	1,718,779	" 337,789	" 24·4
Non-bearing	"	913,790	953,194	" 39,404	" 4·3
Grapes	Lbs.	115,316	47,227	Dec. 68,089	Dec. 59·0
Strawberries	Qts.	992,787	620,971	" 219,459	" 22·1
Currants and gooseberries	"		99,794		
Other small fruits	"		52,563		

NUMBER of bearing and non-bearing apple trees in Nova Scotia in 1901 and 1911, and increase or decrease in the decade.

Province and District.	Bearing.			Non-bearing		
	1901.	1911.	Increase or Decrease.	1901.	1911.	Increase or Decrease.
Annapolis	252,170	343,565	Inc. 91,395	136,481	173,196	Inc. 36,715
Hants	114,923	134,701	" 19,778	60,402	93,337	" 32,935
Kings	374,881	658,768	" 283,887	306,708	424,417	" 117,709

QUEBEC.

—	1901.	1911.	Increase or Decrease.	Per cent of Increase or Decrease.
Orchard and nursery ..... Acres.	34,289	34,376	Inc. 87	Inc. 0·2
Vineyard ..... "	119	641	" 522	" 438·6
Small fruits ..... "	(not given)	1,669	.....	.....
Apple trees ..... No.	2,256,752	2,158,589	Dec. 98,163	Dec. 4·3
Bearing ..... "	1,475,727	1,295,992	" 180,735	" 12·2
Non-bearing ..... "	780,025	862,597	Inc. 82,572	Inc. 10·5
Product ..... Bush.	2,025,113	1,401,109	.....	.....
Peach trees ..... No.	332	2,244	Inc. 1,912	Inc. 575·9
Bearing ..... "	68	1,641	" 1,573	" 2,313·2
Non-bearing ..... "	264	603	" 339	" 128·4
Product ..... Bush.	17	987	.....	.....
Pear trees ..... No.	11,823	7,534	Dec. 4,289	Dec. 36·2
Bearing ..... "	5,191	3,807	" 1,384	" 26·6
Non-bearing ..... "	6,632	3,727	" 2,905	" 43·8
Product ..... Bush.	3,275	4,967	.....	.....
Plum trees ..... No.	364,280	260,076	Dec. 104,204	Dec. 28·6
Bearing ..... "	245,370	133,567	" 111,803	" 45·5
Non-bearing ..... "	118,910	126,509	Inc. 7,599	Inc. 6·3
Product ..... Bush.	122,648	51,045	.....	.....
Cherry trees ..... No.	394,090	167,275	Dec. 226,815	Dec. 57·5
Bearing ..... "	317,762	111,267	" 206,495	" 64·9
Non-bearing ..... "	76,328	56,008	" 20,320	" 26·6
Product ..... Bush.	150,690	44,715	.....	.....
Other fruit trees ..... No.	28,528	42,687	Inc. 14,159	Inc. 49·6
Bearing ..... "	23,711	33,073	" 9,362	" 39·4
Non-bearing ..... "	4,817	9,614	" 4,797	" 99·5
Product ..... Bush.	21,386	10,764	.....	.....
Total fruit trees ..... No.	3,055,805	2,638,405	Dec. 417,400	Dec. 13·6
Bearing ..... "	2,068,829	1,579,347	" 489,482	" 23·6
Non-bearing ..... "	986,976	1,059,058	Inc. 72,082	Inc. 7·3
Grapes ..... Lbs.	995,849	310,826	Dec. 685,023	Dec. 68·7
Strawberries ..... Qts.	2,993,618	1,955,749	" 181,867	" 6·0
Currants and gooseberries ..... "		661,101		
Other small fruits		194,903		

NUMBER of bearing and non-bearing apple trees in certain districts of Quebec in 1901 and 1911, and increase or decrease in the decade.

District.	Bearing.			Non-bearing.		
	1901.	1911.	Increase or Decrease.	1901.	1911.	Increase or Decrease.
Brome	67,451	42,935	Dec. 24,516	17,412	17,846	Inc. 434
Chateauguay	53,445	60,169	Inc. 6,724	30,575	28,232	Dec. 2,343
Compton	60,448	46,250	Dec. 14,198	47,866	33,957	" 3,909
Deux Montagnes	48,971	57,897	Inc. 8,926	13,051	32,836	Inc. 19,785
Huntingdon	80,893	66,086	Dec. 14,807	19,584	26,497	" 6,913
Jacques Cartier	138,664	90,537	" 48,127	21,440	30,899	" 9,459
Missisquoi	95,748	51,455	" 44,293	19,842	11,348	Dec. 8,494
Laval	50,826	38,424	" 12,402	19,146	9,668	" 9,478
Rouville	124,012	127,881	Inc. 3,869	45,864	144,039	Inc. 98,175
Shefford	63,827	59,077	Dec. 4,750	31,112	26,416	Dec. 4,696
Stanstead	65,093	41,064	" 24,029	24,645	20,036	" 4,609

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

—	1901.	1911.	Increase or Decrease.	Per cent of Increase or Decrease.
Orchard and nursery ... Acres.	7,502	17,343	Inc. 9,841	Inc. 131·1
Vineyard ... "	18	439	" 421	" 2,438·8
Small fruits ... "	(not given)	1,221	...	...
Apple trees ... No.	391,644	1,647,594	Inc. 1,255,950	Inc. 320·6
Bearing ...	220,684	414,662	" 193,978	" 87·8
Non-bearing ... "	170,960	1,232,932	" 1,061,872	621·1
Product ... Bush.	240,012	606,165	...	...
Peach trees ... No.	7,953	193,704	Inc. 185,751	Inc 2,335·6
Bearing ... "	3,552	40,750	" 37,198	" 1,047·2
Non-bearing ... "	4,401	152,954	" 148,553	" 3,375·4
Product ... Bush.	2,553	38,275	...	...
Pear trees ... No.	44,743	138,054	Inc. 93,311	Inc. 208·5
Bearing ... "	24,948	30,288	" 5,340	" 21·4
Non-bearing ... "	19,795	107,766	" 87,971	" 444·4
Product ... Bush.	25,364	47,182	...	...
Plum trees ... No.	86,443	177,385	Inc. 90,942	Inc. 105·2
Bearing ... "	59,780	90,886	" 31,106	" 52·0
Non-bearing ... "	26,663	86,499	" 59,836	" 224·4
Product ... Bush.	58,221	67,405	...	...
Cherry trees ... No.	26,799	100,627	Inc. 73,828	Inc. 275·4
Bearing ... No.	17,322	31,057	" 13,735	" 79·2
Non-bearing ... "	9,477	69,570	" 60,093	" 634·0
Product ... Bush.	14,445	24,462	...	...
Other fruit trees ... No.	10,200	74,878	Inc. 64,678	Inc. 634·0
Bearing ... "	5,132	23,943	" 18,811	" 366·5
Non-bearing ... "	5,068	50,935	" 45,867	" 905·0
Product ... Bush.	2,938	9,146	...	...
Total fruit trees ... No.	967,782	2,332,242	Inc. 1,764,460	Inc. 310·7
Bearing ... "	331,418	631,586	" 300,168	" 90·5
Non-bearing ... "	236,364	1,700,656	" 1,464,292	619·5
Grapes ... Lbs.	30,182	23,362	Dec. 6,820	Dec. 22·5
Strawberries ... Qts.	691,358	972,552	Inc. 1,492,978	Inc. 215·9
Currants and gooseberries ... "		245,619		
Other small fruits ... "		274,807		

NUMBER of bearing and non-bearing apple trees in certain districts of British Columbia in 1901 and 1911, and increase or decrease in the decade.

District.	Bearing.			Non-bearing.		
	1901.	1911.	Increase or Decrease.	1901.	1911.	Increase or Decrease.
Yale & Cariboo	47,360	128,462	Inc. 81,102	59,284	634,953	Inc. 575,669
Nanaimo		94,289			81,961	
New Westminster	89,167	92,972	Inc. 3,805	48,164	95,926	Inc. 47,762
Kootenay		75,988			403,268	

NEW BRUNSWICK.

		1901.	1911.	Increase or Decrease.	Per cent of Increase or Decrease.
Orchard and nursery	Acres.	8,924	7,259	Dec. 1,665	Dec. 18·6
Vineyard	"	7	53	Inc. 46	Inc. 657·1
Small fruits	"	(not given)	432		
Apple trees	No.	675,364	620,121	Dec. 55,243	Dec. 8·1
Bearing	"	456,115	390,548	" 65,567	" 14·3
Non-bearing	"	219,249	229,573	Inc. 10,324	Inc. 4·7
Product	Bush.	503,214	268,403		
Peach trees	No.	383	918	Inc. 585	Inc. 175·6
Bearing	"	86	667	" 581	" 675·5
Non-bearing	"	247	251	" 4	" 1·6
Product	Bush.	87	49		
Pear trees	No.	2,500	1,955	Dec. 545	Dec. 21·8
Bearing	"	721	813	Inc. 92	Inc. 12·7
Non-bearing	"	1,779	1,142	Dec. 637	Dec. 35·8
Product	Bush.	279	418		
Plum trees	No.	33,271	22,043	Dec. 11,228	Dec. 33·7
Bearing	"	16,900	11,521	" 5,379	" 31·8
Non-bearing	"	16,371	10,522	" 5,849	" 35·7
Product	Bush.	4,637	3,922		
Cherry trees	No.	34,570	19,036	Dec. 15,534	Dec. 44·9
Bearing	"	21,239	11,355	" 9,884	" 46·5
Non-bearing	"	13,331	7,681	" 5,650	" 42·3
Product	Bush.	4,233	1,690		
Other fruit trees	No.	15,796	4,834	Dec. 10,962	Dec. 69·3
Bearing	"	12,326	1,823	" 10,503	" 85·2
Non-bearing	"	3,470	3,011	" 459	" 13·2
Product	Bush.	1,096	302		
Total fruit trees	No.	761,834	668,907	Dec. 92,927	Dec. 12·1
Bearing	"	507,387	416,727	" 90,660	" 17·8
Non-bearing	"	254,447	252,180	" 2,267	" 0·8
Grapes	Lb.	2,637	989	Dec. 1,648	Dec. 62·4
Strawberries	Qts.	475,051	808,041	Inc. 452,094	Inc. 95·1
Currants and gooseberries	"		37,456		
Other small fruits	"		81,648		

NUMBER of bearing and non-bearing apple trees in certain districts of New Brunswick in 1901 and 1911, and increase or decrease in the decade.

District.	Bearing.			Non-bearing.		
	1901.	1911.	Increase or Decrease.	1901.	1911.	Increase or Decrease.
Carleton	119,162	86,042	Dec. 33,120	31,485	20,323	Dec. 11,162
Kings & Albert	69,341	73,270	Inc. 3,929	37,396	44,397	Inc. 7,001
Sunbury & Queens	72,864	60,669	Dec. 12,195	39,627	36,918	Dec. 2,709
York	80,488	57,010	" 22,578	32,440	30,567	" 1,873
Westmoreland	36,031	40,525	Inc. 4,494	23,724	41,459	Inc. 17,735

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

—	1901.	1911.	Increase or Decrease.	Per cent of Increase or Decrease.
Orchard and nursery.....Acres.	3,216	3,606	Inc. 390	Inc. 12·1
Vineyard..... "	1	56	" 55	" 5,500·0
Small fruits..... "	(not given)	111	.....	.....
Apple trees..... No.	202,100	172,299	Dec. 89,801	Dec. 14·7
Bearing..... "	115,091	117,253	Inc, 2,162	Inc. 1·8
Non-bearing..... "	87,009	55,046	Dec. 31,963	Dec. 36·7
Product.....Bush.	159,421	150,236	.....	.....
Peach trees..... No.	163	534	Inc. 371	Inc. 227·6
Bearing..... "	72	199	" 127	" 176·3
Non-bearing..... "	91	335	" 244	" 268·1
Product.....Bush.	45	17	.....	.....
Pear trees..... No.	1,962	2,352	Inc. 390	Inc. 19·8
Bearing..... "	621	1,370	" 749	" 120·6
Non-bearing..... "	1,341	982	Dec. 359	Dec. 26·7
Product.....Bush.	279	838	.....	.....
Plum trees..... No.	27,480	19,060	Dec. 8,420	Dec. 30·6
Bearing..... "	13,001	10,450	" 2,551	" 19·6
Non-bearing..... "	14,479	8,610	" 5,869	" 40·5
Product.....Bush.	4,265	5,346	.....	.....
Cherry trees..... No.	70,431	44,554	Dec. 25,877	Dec. 36·7
Bearing..... "	48,917	30,779	" 18,138	" 37·0
Non-bearing..... "	121,514	13,775	" 7,739	" 35·9
Product.....Bush.	17,838	6,621	.....	.....
Other fruit trees..... No.	57,924	9,412	Dec. 48,512	Dec. 83·7
Bearing..... "	47,378	3,929	" 43,449	" 91·7
Non-bearing..... "	10,546	5,483	" 5,063	" 48·0
Product.....Bush.	2,639	1,386	.....	.....
Total fruit trees..... No.	360,060	248,211	Dec. 111,849	Dec. 31·0
Bearing..... "	125,080	163,980	Inc. 38,900	Inc. 31·1
Non-bearing..... "	134,980	84,231	Dec. 50,749	Dec. 37·5
Grapes..... Lbs.	862	1,015	Inc. 153	Inc. 17·7
Strawberries..... Qts.	150,590	165,715	Inc. 62,812	Inc. 41·7
Currants and gooseberries..... "		46,083		
Other small fruits..... "		1,604		

NUMBER of bearing and non-bearing apple trees in Prince Edward Island in 1901 and 1911, and increase or decrease in the decade.

District.	Bearing.			Non-bearing.		
	1901.	1911.	Increase or Decrease.	1901.	1911.	Increase or Decrease.
Queens	59,220	47,502	Dec. 11,718	37,208	25,743	Dec. 11,465
Prince	34,446	36,375	Inc. 1,929	31,708	15,188	" 16,520
Kings	21,425	33,376	" 11,951	18,093	14,115	" 3,978

APPLES exported from Canada in the years 1895 to 1911 inclusive.

Crop Year.	Fiscal Year.	Great Britain.	United States.	Other countries.	Total.	Total Value.
		Brls.	Brls.	Brls.	Brls.	$
1894	1895	751,232	86,841	15,195	853,268	1,821,463
1895	1896	504,680	54,062	8,440	567,182	1,416,470
1896	1897	1,579,272	54,348	30,850	1,664,470	2,502,968
1897	1898	414,181	7,933	17,304	439,418	1,306,681
1898	1899	972,125	81,204	21,739	1,075,068	2,621,352
1899	1900	896,935	29,529	29,994	956,458	2,578,233
1900	1901	643,945	12,502	22,204	678,651	1,482,927
1901	1902	490,338	17,162	8,715	516,215	1,566,808
1902	1903	973,805	6,064	20,659	1,000,528	2,768,724
1903	1904	1,513,744	14,899	69,971	1,598,614	4,590,793
1904	1905	986,222	16,784	34,142	1,037,148	2,627,467
1905	1906	1,029,418	44,051	144,095	1,217,564	4,083,482
1906	1907*	933,769	5,381	38,811	977,961	2,634,608
1907	1908	1,490,311	111,042	27,777	1,629,130	4,822,594
1908	1909	1,048,365	19,209	24,492	1,092,066	2,804,087
1909	1910	1,523,901	48,272	32,304	1,604,477	4,417,926
1910	1911	476,190	16,923	30,545	523,658	1,756,884

*9 months.

	Brls.	$
Average yearly exports in last 5 years (crops 1906 to 1911)	1,165,458	3,287,219
" " preceding 5 years (crops 1901 to 1905)	1,074,014	3,125,455
" " " 5 years (crops 1896 to 1900)	962,813	2,098,432

Of the crops of 1911 the exports up to January 31, 1912, amounted to 1,248,586 barrels, valued at $3,851,338. Of this quantity I estimate that Nova Scotia shipped approximately 993,000 barrels, leaving 255,586 barrels for the rest of Canada

Mr. A. W. PEART:

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen.—At the last Dominion conference held in 1906, at the request of Mr. McNeill, chief of the Fruit Division, I undertook to prepare and give before the conference figures bearing on the fruit industry not only for the Dominion but for the various provinces. It was a very big work, and I found a great deal of difficulty in preparing those figures. Up to that time I had done a certain amount of institute work in this province, and I was often asked about the fruit industry, its extent and questions of that kind, and I know from what others tell me at the conference meetings, not only in this province but from what has been said in the Provincial House of Parliament, as well as in the Dominion, that the

members were unable to answer questions bearing on the fruit industry as to its extent and value. I believe Mr. McNeill had that in mind when I was asked to try to prepare some figures. At that conference I moved a resolution that at the next Dominion census, that is the census for 1911, the method of taking the census so far as the fruit was concerned, should be gone into with further detail. In 1901, the census was taken in this way: Acres of orchard, all sorts of fruit trees, apple trees, pear trees, plum trees and so on, acreage of small fruits and so on, were lumped together, and, I wanted to have the small fruits separated from the vegetables, and I am very glad to find that in this census that has been done. In the census of 1901, the value of fruit and vegetables was lumped together.

At that last conference a resolution was also presented asking that the various provinces of the Dominion be asked to give further details with relation to the fruit industry, and at the succeeding Fruit Growers' Association, I moved a resolution asking the government to give us more figures, and I am very glad to be able to tell this meeting that the Ontario Minister, Mr. C. C. James, took the matter up, and from 1907 on we have more detailed statistics than we had up to that time.

Up to 1907, the Bureau of Industry gave us the acreage of orchards and gardens lumped together; now they give us the acreage of orchards separate, and the acreage in vineyards by itself.

Now, if you will permit me, I will read a statement which I have taken from the Ontario Bureau of Industry. I do not do it in a critical spirit, everyone here realizes the difficulty of getting at reliable figures. I have taken the total acreage and divided it by six and subtracted that quantity from the total acreage, so as to give you the acreage of apples. I make the acreage of apples in Ontario six times greater than that of all the other fruit trees, and that gives an area of 252,657 acres; other fruits, 50,531 acres; small fruits, 25,360 acres; and grape vines, 11,586 acres. The Bureau of Industry gives no values, but I have consulted with some of the best men in my district, and I have assigned the value of $200 per acre to apple orchards. That gives a capital value of $50,531,400. Peaches, plums, pears and cherry trees, I value at $300 per acre, which gives a total of $15,159,300; small fruits I value at $350, which gives a total of $8,876,000; grape vines, $350, or a total of $4,055,100, or a total capital investment in the province of Ontario of $78,621,800. Some of you may ask what is the value of the product from that investment. I think we can fairly say that we get 20 per cent annually, and that will give us an annual income of $15,724,360 per annum.

Mr. Hamilton.—There was great disappointment in Canada when the last census was published. We felt that we had lost about 800,000 people, and I am sure the fruit growers are disappointed with this statement that we have just heard. When we are told that the total product of apples for the whole of Canada has fallen from 18,624,000 bushels to 10,000,000 bushels, and there has only been a decline in fruit-bearing trees of 1·4, yet the reduction in the product is nearly 50 per cent, that is in face of all that has been done to enlighten the fruit growers of the best methods of increasing the production of their fruit trees. Where does that decrease take place? In the schedule for Ontario, under the head of apple trees, it gives the number of trees, bearing and non-bearing, but it does not give the product, and I do not know why the omission is made.

Mr. Moore.—You will find it at the bottom of the sheet.

Mr. Hamilton.—Yes, here it is at the bottom of the sheet, and it shows a decline of 7,400,000 bushels in the province of Ontario alone. I do not know whether that is due to the fact that the figures on this schedule were based on the year 1910 which, unfortunately, was a bad year, or to the method of taking the census. I think myself that the methods employed in taking this census were extremely faulty. I happened to be in England at the time the census was taken there, and I think we can learn a good deal from the old country as to how these figures should be taken.

The CHAIRMAN.—I do not think we are discussing the method of taking the census.

Mr. HAMILTON.—I am only trying to find some reason why this statement should be so disappointing. I think it is due to the imperfect way in which these statistics were taken, and in the second place, I think it is probably due to the decrease in crop in the year 1910. There was an increase of over one million barrels in our exports from Canada, and an increase in the total value of about two million dollars, and it seems an extraordinary thing that we should increase so largely if we have fallen off in production, especially when we consider the home market has been absorbing such a very large percentage of the apples grown in Canada. Yet in spite of that, we were able to export some two million barrels of fruit during the seven years previous.

The CHAIRMAN.—I do not think we will gain anything by discussing these figures. They are only figures and we cannot alter them, and it seems to me it would be wasting time to go on any further discussing this matter. It would be better to proceed with the next question which is down for discussion.

QUESTION 2.—AMENDMENTS TO PART IX. OF THE INSPECTION AND SALE ACT.

The first item under question 2 is a resolution by British Columbia, 'That we instruct our delegates to Ottawa to use every endeavour in their power to have the words "For Export Only" expurgated from the Canadian Fruit Marks Act, Section 325.' That question was discussed this morning, so I think we can go on to the next point. 'Nova Scotia proposes that the government be asked to amend the Fruit Marks Act as to define the size of No. 1 and No. 2 apples for the different varieties.' That refers to section 321 of the Inspection and Sale Act. Now, I will be glad to have the delegates from Nova Scotia support that resolution.

Mr. CHUTE.—There is a misunderstanding as to what No. 2 and No. 1 grade of apples means with regard to size. The Act provides that they shall be of medium size. That should be defined more definitely, and we believe that if certain varieties were grouped together, a certain measure could be given to the diameter of these apples. There is considerable dissatisfaction as to the different standards the inspectors have in their minds. The inspectors for Nova Scotia have in their minds a smaller apple than the size in the minds of the inspectors of Ontario, and we believe this matter should be settled in some way so that we could have a definite measure or have a minimum size for No. 1 or No. 2 grade of the different varieties. Ontario has made a requisition to their Fruit Growers' Association, and this matter was brought before the united fruit companies of Nova Scotia, and they have voted upon it, and the Fruit Growers' Association of Nova Scotia have also voted upon it.

Mr. A. G. TURNEY.—It seems to me that we should have more definite ideas as to what the size should be for each grade. We took this matter up at the time of our show at St. John last fall, and we decided on what sizes we thought should be designated for No. 1 and No. 2 apples in our province. I do not want to say anything further about the size until I have heard from the members from British Columbia and Ontario, because they have not given us any idea yet with regard to the sizes they would suggest.

VISIT OF HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE GOVERNOR GENERAL.

At this stage His Royal Highness the Governor General arrived at the hall, and was received by the Hon. Martin Burrell and the presidents of the several Provincial Fruit Growers' Associations. After inspecting the display of apples under the guidance of Mr. Burrell and Mr. Ruddick, he took a seat on the platform.

Hon. Mr. Martin Burrell (in the Chair).

Ladies and Gentlemen, representatives of the fruit growers of Canada, I am sure I but feebly express your sentiments when I say that we are delighted to receive this visit from His Royal Highness the Governor General. (Applause.) We may, I think, look upon His Royal Highness's presence here this afternoon as an evidence of the deep interest which he takes in all matters relating to the material welfare of the country.

Your Royal Highness, the delegates will feel highly honoured, if you should care to make a few remarks before we go on with the business of the conference.

ADDRESS

His Royal Highness, the Duke of Connaught, Governor General of Canada.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I owe it to Mr. Burrell for having so kindly thought of asking me to come down amongst you this afternoon. I am delighted to be in this beautiful place which is pervaded with the sweet odour of these splendid apples, and I can assure you that it has given me great pleasure to show, by my presence here to-day, the great interest I take in this very important fruit trade of Canada. (Applause).

I know that it is only of recent years that Canada as a Dominion has taken such a deep interest in fruit culture. I believe that the advances made within the last ten years are something most remarkable. We see behind us here in this exhibit representative apples from all the provinces of Canada. I am sure they are beautiful in colour, as I hope they are delicious in taste. (Applause).

I appear before you with great diffidence because fruit growing is a subject of which I know very little. In a small way in my garden at home, I have my fruit trees, and a great deal of disappointment and trouble they give me. (Laughter.) I expect that you are much happier in Canada where you have a climate more suited to fruit than the damp climate of England. Therefore, I feel that what has been my experience leads me to think that with care and perseverance you ought to succeed in this fine climate of Canada. Of late years, I think everybody, certainly all civilized countries, have taken an increasing interest in fruit growing—not only an increasing interest in fruit growing but in fruit eating as well. I do not suppose there is any table, or that you would accept any hospitality at any house where they would not be disappointed if they could not give you some of their fruit. The fruit trade is a very important one, and I am certain that in Canada it has a great future before it in supplying not only the Dominion, but other parts of the world with well grown fruit. I know that Canada is especially adapted for the growing of apples. I think probably nobody would deny that there are none better than the Canadian apples. (Great applause). Of course, there is rivalry. You have apples from our friends over the border, and you also have apples from our fellow subjects in Australia, but still I think you ought to be able to hold your own, and from what I can hear, and from what I have read of the success that has attended fruit growing in Canada, I feel convinced that you have a great future before you in this product that is so much appreciated.

As I said before, I do not feel that I can give you any advice; I can only give you my sympathy and admiration. Of course we all know that in growing fruit, the same as in any other walk of life, there is much trouble and if you want to be successful you must take a great deal of pains. I know that pruning, spraying and reducing the number of fruit to the proper amount that the tree should carry, are three of the most important things. A mulch is required if a dry season is coming on, but these are things which anybody who knows anything about horticulture and

fruit growing would naturally do. Then I know one of the most important things (and it is one I think even that there is a question before you now with regard to), and that is your trade marks, if I may so call them, and the importance of carefully packing both the fruit to be transported by land and by sea. Therefore, you gentlemen, whom I have the honour of addressing, whose experience is very great, coming together as you do for this third conference of Dominion fruit growers, will be able to bring to bear on your discussions the results of your experience, and I look to this third meeting of this Dominion Fruit Conference as one that ought to be productive of the very best results not only for Canada, but I hope for yourselves also.

Gentlemen, I thank you for having allowed me to come, and I am now going to have the great pleasure of listening to your discussions. (Applause).

(The Hon. MARTIN BURRELL in the Chair.)

The CHAIRMAN.—The next business on the programme is a resolution proposed by Nova Scotia, 'That the government be asked to so amend the Fruit Marks Act as to define the size of No. 1 and No. 2 apples for the different varieties.' There has been some discussion on that and His Royal Highness will be glad to listen for a little while to the discussion, and I hope the gentlemen will discuss with absolute freedom, because I am sure His Royal Highness will desire it in that way.

Mr. TAPPAN ADNEY.—Mr. Chairman, Your Royal Highness and Gentlemen, as I understand it, what is required is a standard size for all Canada, but I think as a preliminary to that, I might state what has been our long experience. Mr. Sharp of New Brunswick began to use a gage perhaps earlier than anyone in America. He used it forty years ago, when he was handling a large crop of Canadian apples, and by doing so he succeeded in securing a uniformity in packing, and the gage became part of his contract, and it had a great deal to do in making the Sharp Trade Mark of quality throughout Canada. During the last ten years, that has gone out of use, and as a direct consequence our apples to-day only bring half what they did eight years ago.

As a member of the New Brunswick Fruit Growers' Association, realizing our past history and the success of a definite uniform size, I brought the matter before the New Brunswick Fruit Growers' Association, and was made chairman of the committee to endeavour to see if we could have a standard for all fruit growers. We have extensive orchards in New Brunswick, and we are turning out a large product, and they are under no control whatever as to size. A great quantity of apples is packed by farmers who grow apples as a side issue, and their purpose is simply to get them on the market in the least expensive way. I think it would pay to have some definite standard so that we can put a large quantity of the finest fruit on the market, and thus secure a reputation for our fruit. I think there should be some definite standard that would be compulsory so as to make it necessary that there would be some check on placing poor fruit on the market because this poor fruit ruins the market for the people who pack well.

At the outset, I discovered that there was no possibility of our agreeing on one standard, and also there is a tendency with a great many to specialize. There are very few places where they grow the same kind of apples, but nevertheless, I think it would be a good thing to have a uniform standard throughout Canada.

As our apples go on the market at the present time, No. 1 from one province is different from No. 1 from another, and No. 1 New York State is different from No. 1 Prince Edward Island, and again New Brunswick has a different standard. Some of my Ontario friends inform me that apples go into the market under the name of the very district from which they come. This is not an attempt to make Ontario apples like Nova Scotia apples or Eastern apples like British Columbia apples. If we have a small apple, it has a market value, and it is not a question of making them all the same but merely a question of defining and giving a definite meaning to the words No. 1 or No. 2.

A Delegate.—Did not the Programme Committee define the length of our addresses?

The Chairman.—Three minutes for each gentleman discussing a resolution.

Mr. Adney.—What I desire to say is that if the inspector had something to go by, he would have something of a definite nature, and we should have a standard for all Canada.

Prof. Blair.—Mr. Chairman, Your Royal Highness and Gentlemen: I would like to say that as far as I can see, there seems to be a lack of definiteness in the Act as to what constitutes the size, medium or below medium, and I think something definite should be stated. The only way to get at this subject properly is to have a measurement taken of apples grown in different parts of Canada and after bringing these measurements together, then decide on a minimum size for each particular grade. If that was done, it would be quite possible to reach something definite, and something that would be entirely satisfactory to the fruit growers. Until something of that kind is done, I fail to see how we can possibly have a clear understanding of what size the apples should be to go into the No. 1 or No. 2 grade.

Mr. Elmer Lick.—Mr. Chairman, some action, if possible, should be taken at this conference. Probably that same size then will be adopted after a few years, so that when a purchaser buys a barrel of apples, he will be certain that there will be none in that barrel below a certain size. The Ontario delegates have decided on a size for each variety, and I suppose the other provinces, to a certain extent, have done something of that kind. Is it not at all practicable to take the different sizes of these varieties and come to an understanding? It would take a long time to discuss this matter on the floor, and I think it would be better if it were left in the hands of a special committee by whom it could be threshed out, and some definite agreement come to, and then the final conclusion could be brought up for discussion.

When you say medium, the packers who are working for you know that is the trouble, and they are more or less influenced by the average of the fruit they are handling. In a good orchard, the men would pack a fine grade of fruit, but in a poor orchard with a lot of small fruit, there would be too much small fruit in the barrel, and in view of the fact that the purchaser would like to be assured that he is not going to get too many small apples, I think an attempt should be made to come to an understanding and perhaps have it put on the statutes of the land. I can understand perfectly well that our British Columbia friends would want a size that Ontario would not desire, and perhaps we would be inclined to object to the size Quebec would desire and Nova Scotia might agree pretty well with Ontario, and all these conflicting ideas from the different provinces must be brought together in order that we may take the best means of arriving at the proper size for the different grades. (Applause).

Mr. R. J. Messenger.—One objection that has been raised to having a definite size for grading apples is that no two provinces raise the same apples the same size, and another objection is that year after year we have the same apples in the same provinces different sizes. It is a matter of climate and cultivation on one hand, and a matter of season on the other. If we grade our apples and British Columbia wants to grade their apples a little larger, there is no reason why they should not do so. We are only asking for a minimum definite size, and it is to the advantage of any province to grade much larger than that if they want to. Therefore, I see no reason why we should not be perfectly unanimous in this matter.

The Chairman.—It seems to me that we have got down to the root of the matter, and it possibly would be well to refer this back to the Resolution Committee in order that they may bring in a specific resolution for adoption or rejection.

Mr, Thompson.—In reference to what the previous speakers have said, and in view of the fact that the other resolutions bearing on the Fruit Marks Act are com-

ing up, and that some resolutions have been referred to a special committee, and that committee having practically concluded its work. I think this meeting should appoint a special committee to deal with this matter. If we appoint on that committee delegates from the different provinces, they could arrive at a conclusion in a very short time. There are a number of points dealing with the Fruit Marks Act and they should all go to the same committee.

The CHAIRMAN.—You have heard Mr. Thompson's suggestion to have a special committee to deal with all these matters that appertain to the Fruit Marks Act. I think that would be very advisable. I presume as a result of your deliberations that you will come to me and ask me to carry out your decision, therefore, I want to see the matter well threshed out.

Mr. THOMPSON.—With the approval of the meeting, we could in the meantime go over these different clauses.

Mr. HAMILTON.—Why not name your committee now, so that they could hear the discussion with regard to the balance of the clauses, and then they would be better prepared when the matter comes before them?

The CHAIRMAN.—There are only three or four more resolutions, and I do not imagine anybody will leave the room during that time.

The next resolution is one dealing with the size of apple barrels: 'Whereas, the Dominion Act regulating the size of apple barrels is not being complied with in the fruit districts of the province; and, whereas it is important that all barrels containing apples should be fully up to the standard required by the Act: Therefore, be it resolved that the department to which it may belong, be requested to add to the duties of apple inspector the inspection of the barrel as well in which the apples are packed, and also that the Act be so amended as to require all coopers who manufacture barrels in which apples are packed and offered for sale to brand their name and address on the side of each barrel made by them, and also making such manufacture of barrels subject to a fine of twenty-five cents for each barrel so made by them not complying with the Act.' That is proposed by Nova Scotia.

Mr. THOMPSON.—That clause was practically dealt with in regard to the size of packages, and the committee has recommended a certain size.

The CHAIRMAN.—The next resolution is one proposed by Ontario: 'That the association urge upon the Dominion Minister of Agriculture to appoint a commission of three from each province, composed of fruit dealers or growers of prominence, to select and recommend for appointment fruit inspectors; that the government be asked to so amend the Inspection and Sale Act as to guarantee a uniform size for each variety; that the government be asked to amend the Inspection and Sale Act, and with this in view to appoint a larger number of inspectors, so that inspection be made at point of shipment and a certificate of same be given.' That resolution, I might frankly admit, is a pretty big one, looking at it from my point of view. I will be very glad to have it discussed, and I will be very glad to listen to any suggestions the committee may make.

Mr. D. JOHNSON.—That resolution was gotten out after some discussion among the members of the Ontario Fruit Growers' Association, who expected that when the new government came in power the department of which you are now the head would probably want some assistance in helping you out in the arrangement of inspectors. (Laughter). We do not wish to thrust ourselves upon your department, but we desire to take the appointment of inspectors absolutely out of politics. The reason for that is that as time goes on, appointments may be made of men who are not just as qualified for the position as they should be. As fruit growers and shippers, we think that no man is of greater importance than the fruit inspector. We recognize the splendid work they have already done, but we also recognize the

fact that there is great danger of appointments being made of men not qualified to hold such an important position. At the present time, the inspector holds in his hands the reputation and character of the shipper no matter who he is or what he may be, and against the judgment of the inspector there is little or no appeal. This is emphasized by the fact that apples can be shipped to Montreal or Winnipeg and falsely marked. I think it is wise that the appointment of inspectors should be very carefully done.

This resolution is merely brought forward not in a spirit of criticism, but rather to appoint a board who shall be honest and sincere in the appointment of inspectors. We are not asking that the men recommended should be appointed, but simply that they should be passed upon. (Applause).

The CHAIRMAN.—Do I understand that your recommendation is the appointment of such a board in each province or in the whole country?

Mr. JOHNSON.—For each province.

Mr. R. J. GRAHAM.—There is a sweeping change proposed in that resolution. You perhaps may have noticed that it is proposed to inspect the apples at the point of shipment which is really a commercial proposition rather than the one we have now which is more of an educational scheme. I happen to represent some of the associations of shippers, and we would be very pleased to have that change brought about, so that we could have our apples inspected by men appointed by the government, who are qualified for that position, and we would be quite willing to pay for that sort of inspection a reasonable amount. I can quite understand that, from the point of view of the government, to have inspectors located in all the fruit growing districts for that purpose would be a very expensive proposition, but it would be of material benefit to the trade. As the law stands at present, if we desire a car load of apples inspected at the point of shipment, we are told by the department that it is not their purpose or their plan to inspect all apples at the point of shipment, but at the port from which they leave the country, or at their destination in the hands of the consumer. If we produce a car of apples that are not properly packed or something is wrong with them, we only find it out when they arrive at Halifax or Montreal or some other point, or at their destination in Manitoba. If the apples were inspected at their origin and they turned out to be of an unsatisfactory quality, it would be a very simple matter for the owner of the fruit to repack it and put it in proper condition, and the reputation of our apples would be materially benefited. I do not think there is anybody in the trade, or a man growing fruit, who wants to sell a package of apples that is not up to the standard of the present Inspection and Sale Act, but unfortunately there is no place where these apples may be inspected before shipping and for that reason I would be very pleased to support any measure which the government might adopt to assist us, and we would be willing to pay our portion of the expense.

With the present system of inspection, the only apples branded are those falsely packed or falsely marked. It has occurred to me that, as in the inspection of meat or other commodities, the package that passes inspection should be branded as of satisfactory quality and the inspector should O.K. them, place his name on the package, with the date of the inspection and the grade. When they reach their destination—supposing that 5 per cent have been branded as satisfactory—the buyer has a standard, and can use it as a basis of comparison for the barrels which are not so branded. We only know good and bad fruit by comparing good and bad fruit, and in inspecting Nova Scotia apples or Washington apples, or British Columbia apples at Winnipeg, the inspector has to go by comparison. But if he had a barrel of Nova Scotia apples that the Nova Scotia inspector had branded as of satisfactory quality, he could inspect the balance of that car on the basis of these apples. It frequently happens that an inspector in the east finds the goods of a satisfactory quality so far as size is concerned, but when they get to Winnipeg, the inspector there has been

trained altogether on a different basis, and he finds they are not up to the standard as far as his judgment is concerned.

I would strongly urge that some plan should be formulated whereby we can have inspection at the point of production, and that the apples should be branded whether accepted or rejected.

Mr. R. M. Winslow.—I see one fundamental difficulty in this resolution. Saskatchewan or Alberta would recommend inspectors for their provinces, and it would be impossible to find three growers of fruit of any prominence in Saskatchewan, Alberta or Manitoba. In these provinces, you are undoubtedly aware that the great majority of the jobbing houses are controlled by one great American interest, and in fact owned by American capital, so much so that we in British Columbia have figured on this as one of the fundamental features of the prairie market. It is controlled by American houses, and they control large supplies of American deciduous fruit, and from our standpoint, it would be a mistake to pass any resolution putting the appointment of our inspectors in the hands of our American competitors. I do not think it will make for the success of fruit growing in the Dominion, and I would suggest that this resolution be sent back to the Resolution Committee for amendment.

Mr. Snetzinger.—There are not many older exporters of fruit from Ontario than myself. The evil in the Fruit Marks Act is that if you have apples for export and they are sent to Montreal, Quebec, St. John, Portland, Boston or New York, the inspection is confined to a Dominion port, and they are opened up there and looked at. Now, if you take a barrel of apples that is packed and the head pressed down and they are squeezed, if you put your thumb into an apple or press one apple against the other and keep it there, the juice of that apple is absorbed and it will not rot, but if you keep it there two or three days and then remove it, the juice of that apple settles back into that spot and causes decay or rot and a mottled appearance to the apple. The inspector opens the barrel at the pressed end and he goes down into the barrel to examine it, and then he shoves the apples back into that barrel, and they are pressed down, and he may hit the head with a hammer in order to get it into place. The apples go on board ship for Liverpool or London, and they are opened up fifteen days afterwards in the sales room. They are dumped out in a wicker basket, and they turn up in a rotten condition. Two barrels may be used as a sample for the carload and they will bring from three to four shillings less.

If the inspection was done at the point of production, I would have that barrel repacked in proper shape and in such a way that it would not be an injury to me, and I would not meet with any loss. When I was ready to ship, I could telephone to the inspector that I had a car of apples ready to ship, giving him sufficient notice so that he could get there in time. I would put a man on with him to look after the apples and open the barrels and repack them. The way it is done at present, there are a great many barrels mussed over and spoiled by the inspectors.* I do not think it would cost a lot of money to have the inspection done in the way suggested. I do not see how an inspector could brand every barrel. It would destroy the whole shipment if every barrel was looked into.

The Chairman (Hon. Mr. Burrell).—There have been one or two points raised that show this a very much bigger question than possibly some of you grasp. I am perfectly aware that a matter of this kind means a big appropriation. It would demand an army of inspectors and no inspector could undertake to brand everything 'as good,' unless he saw everything when he branded it. This is a pretty big question, and I welcome discussion on it, and want the points clearly understood because it is a matter in which the government would move slowly. We are anxious to

*The speaker was hardly fair. The inspectors are very careful to replace each apple in its original position as far as possible. The apples are not damaged by the inspectors.—J. A. Ruddick

meet the wishes of the growers and to see that our fruit goes out in as perfect condition as possible, but you can thoroughly appreciate that a government cannot undertake to do what is the business of the fruit grower himself. It would mean too much paternity to watch every fruit grower to see that everything he sent out was really what it ought to be. I would like you to take these things frankly into consideration. I presume this resolution will also go back to the committee.

Mr. Brodie.—I think it would be very unfortunate to do away with the inspectors at the shipping point, especially at Montreal. When the winter set in this year, there were a number of carloads of apples which got caught by frost, and they arrived in Montreal in a frozen condition, and if the inspectors had not been there to examine them, they would have gone on board ship and would be in a very bad way when they reached the old country.

Mr. Nesbitt.—This brings up the question as to whether the Fruit Marks Act is any good at all or not. Speaking as an apple exporter and knowing the situation as I do, I question very much if the Act ought not to be cut out altogether as far as exporting apples is concerned. We all know that if you stamp every barrel of apples with government approval, and if it arrives in London or Liverpool or Glasgow, the Scotchman or Englishman is going to open it up himself, whether they are marked by the government or not. That being the case, why should we have any Fruit Marks Act? Why not cut it out altogether and deal entirely with apples for home consumption. This is a big problem, and a committee should be appointed to sit down and study it up. If we must have these inspectors, let us have first-class men. It seems to me an impossibility to inspect all the apples at Montreal. There are certain weeks when there are fifty or sixty thousand barrels exported, and how is it possible to inspect these apples and do it in the right kind of way. The proper place to inspect the apples is at the point of production and the apple buyers or the apple growers should pay a portion of the expense. The committee should reason these things out, not in an antagonistic spirit, but with an honest desire to improve every interest, and we should lay something before the government that will materially benefit the industry.

Mr. James.—Some very serious losses have been sustained through the Northwest inspection. Cases have been returned to me where unscrupulous dealers have changed the heads. I have very good proof that the heads have been changed, and I know cases where the inspectors have refused to look at apples realizing that the heads have been changed. In the meantime, the shipper is twelve hundred miles away, and it is impossible to leave his business and go up and defend himself. This leads to any amount of loss and damage, and I think the inspectors in the west should be cut out altogether, and the apples should be inspected in the east.

Mr. Snetsinger.—I asked my friend, Mr. Fisher: 'Who asked for this Fruit Marks Act? Did the people of Canada ask for it? Did the fruit growers or farmers ask for it? Did the men in Great Britain ask for it?' Mr. Fisher could not tell me. Nobody asked for this Act. I shipped apples before the Act came into existence, and my apples went through all right, and if the apples were all packed in an upright and proper way, there would be no necessity for any inspection. We have unscrupulous men in the business. I have had my name put on a brand, and I have had it changed. If we had a registered brand and every man put his name on the apples and shipped them as he wanted to, it would be a great deal better. If you do not send good stuff to the English market, you cannot command their respect, but if you put your stuff up right, they are always anxious to get it. I have no fault to find with the inspectors. I have been treated well by them, but I say that before the Inspection Act came into existence, our apples were shipped in better condition. (Cries of 'No, No.')

Mr. CAREY.—This year I exported 62,000 barrels of apples, and I think the Sale Act is a grand thing, and I do not think we could do without it, but I think it is at the wrong end of the game, and that our apples should not be inspected at Montreal but at the point of production. I think they should be examined in the warehouse or on the ground where they are picked.

Mr. LICK.—I did not intend to take part in this discussion, but I do feel that as the result of a little experience, the first two years of the Fruit Marks Act when I was an inspector, I got into a peculiar position in a certain town in Ontario which I am not going to name. A number of men there brought up the same arguments that are being pressed here to-day. They cornered me up in an hotel with these arguments, and I answered them in this way, 'I am going to quit inspection if you fellows are feeling so hard as you are now, and I am going home and going to put the rest of my life trying to see whether it is possible to do away with the Fruit Marks Act, and do it with co-operative work.' If this work was extended all over the province, it would not be very long before we had a betterment of the conditions of apple growing and the good that would result would be something marvelous.

I sometimes get a little bit warm; I feel warm this afternoon when I realize the conditions that existed twelve or thirteen years ago, and when I recognize the fact that we must suffer a little for the good of the whole. The man who buys our apples is interested, and the man who grows the apples is interested. The dealer meets with disaster and that means lower prices for the apples. The men who grow the apples are the ones to say under what conditions they shall be handled. The more inspection of the right kind, the better, and the more closely you can get that inspection to the man who is packing the apples the better.

There are two remedies: In the first place the government does not pay sufficient salaries to get the right class of men, and does not get men who are thoroughly experienced in their work. Early in this inspection work, I was inspecting with another gentleman—I do not know whether he is inspecting now or not—but we were called to examine apples in the city of Montreal. These apples had been in barrels in hot weather for about three weeks, and nobody could tell whether there was anything wrong with them when they were shipped. We want a good strong working Sale and Inspection Act, carried out in the most thorough manner possible.

A VISITOR.—A gentleman mentioned inspecting a car of apples that were frozen. Very often fruit is injured while on the cars, and that is something that the apple shipper cannot prevent. I shipped a car of apples West, and they left here at about seventy degrees, and although I had a refrigerator car they developed rot in transit. The inspector sent me a notice that he was going to fine me, but the man to whom I shipped notified me at once, stating that he expected they would arrive in bad shape on account of the very hot weather. I know positively that the apples were all right when they left me. I claim inspecting apples at the other end is a weak point in the inspection. Climatic conditions have a great deal to do with our fruit in transit.

Mr. D. JOHNSON.—This is a very live question with the fruit growers of Ontario. We are unanimous upon one point, and that is that we should have inspection at the point of production. If we could have that, we would invite the closest possible inspection of our fruit. We do not want to have them inspected when they get to Montreal or some farther distant point where we can do nothing to save ourselves. We would suggest that the matter be tried in a few places, and that a few counties or districts should be handed over to certain inspectors whose duty it would be to inspect the fruit shipped from that district. It may be said that it would be impossible to inspect the fruit shipped from every district, but I venture to say that the very fact that an inspector was in a district who would keep an eye on the fruit

going out, would have a tendency to prevent any fruit leaving that district that was not in proper shape.

This miserable apple that I have in my hand was an apple on the table in the hotel, and I was told by the waitress that it was bought for dessert purposes. If we had inspection such as I suggest, there would be no apples of this kind put on the market. Such fruit is a detriment to the whole trade. At the present time the Ontario Department of Agriculture is sending out district representatives to various parts of the province, and I have no doubt that most of these men know who are packing good apples and who are not. In the county of Lambton, where I live, we have a district representative who goes up and down the concessions instructing the farmers how to grow apples, and taking up every line of agriculture, and I am quite sure, he can tell you who are honest and who are not, in packing apples. If inspectors were appointed as I suggest, they could do a great deal of educational work as well as inspecting.

Some have said that the Fruit Marks Act should be done away with. I do not agree with that. I think it is one of the best things we ever had in the interest of the fruit growing industry. The officials who have been appointed are splendid men.

I know men who are perfectly honest and who are desirous of putting on the market a good package, but by reason of circumstances, their fruit has gone down on the way to the market and the result has been that they have received poor prices. Mr. Ruddick will tell you that our fruit has always gone before the public in good shape. As president of the Ontario Fruit Growers' Association, I feel that this is an important matter to the trade.

The CHAIRMAN.—Before we go any further with our discussion, His Royal Highness has to leave us. He has been very good to stay with us so long, and I would ask you to rise and sing 'God Save the King.' The fruit growers are loyal people.

(The entire audience rose and sang 'God Save the King,' and remained standing until His Royal Highness had left the hall).

Commissioner Ruddick in the Chair.

The CHAIRMAN.—I consider this matter of very great importance, and I would ask Mr. McNeill, chief of the fruit division, to say a few words on this question, and I think he should be on that committee.

Mr. THOMPSON.—Certain points have been brought up in this discussion; one with regard to having three fruit growers in each province to recommend inspectors, and if the government did not approve of them, certain other members could be recommended.

The CHAIRMAN.—Your point was that a number of names should be suggested to the government from whom three commissioners would be chosen?

Mr. THOMPSON.—No, the commissioners would recommend a certain number from the different provinces as suitable men from which the government would select inspectors. In regard to inspection at the point of shipment, we recognize that some regard must be paid to that. There is no particular objection to marking a barrel that has been actually inspected. I think a committee should be appointed to look into this matter, and with that view, I move as follows: That the resolutions and various clauses pertaining to the Fruit Marks Act be referred to the following special committee with instructions to report at a later session of this conference: From Ontario, E. Lick, M. C. Smith, D. Johnson; from Quebec, N. E. Jack, Professor Blair; from Nova Scotia, C. O. Allen, J. N. Chute; from New Brunswick, A. G. Turney; from British Columbia, R. H. Agur, W. A. Pitcairn; from Prince Edward Island, J. A. Annear; also J. W. Crow and A. McNeill.

Mr. PARKER.—As seconder of that motion, I may say that I agree with many of the points that have been brought up in this discussion. As to the first resolution with regard to appointing a commission, I cannot see that it would be of very great advantage, but in respect to methods of inspection and methods of shipment, I have been surprised and greatly pleased to see the united opinion of the fruit growers, that the point of production rather than the point of shipment is the place to inspect the apples. We in Nova Scotia are more interested in this than any other section. Our apples are all exported, you might say, while other provinces consume a large quantity at home. A great many difficulties arise at the point of shipment. Many of these difficulties have been mentioned, but many have not yet been mentioned. In Nova Scotia shipments to the West this year, we have found considerable difficulty with the inspectors there, who seem to have a different standard to what we have in Nova Scotia. That raises the question at once that inspectors should be appointed or trained at the same school. I think we should go over this thing together, and in that way come to a decision of uniformity in the inspection of apples.

There is another point in regard to inspection at the point of production. We in Nova Scotia have had quite a little trade in South Africa, and the South African buyers insist that the apples be inspected before they leave. You know it is impossible to inspect one thousand barrels of apples at Halifax and then ship them to South Africa and have them in the same condition when they arrive as when they left, and we have had to compromise with the South African buyers. The inspectors there are allowed to inspect ten or fifteen barrels out of one hundred and report to the buyer that they have inspected ten barrels out of one hundred and have found them satisfactory. We do not know how soon this will change, and the South African buyers may insist that all the apples be inspected before they leave, and in some way we wish to be able to meet them in that respect.

Regarding the matter of the inspector at the port of shipment holding up apples that are considered to be in bad shape, we do not have any control of that. We had six or eight or ten thousand barrels of apples shipped to Halifax a few days ago, and they were ordered down to the ship's side before she was ready to sail. There was no warm shed to put them in, and they had to remain out a few days at a very low temperature, and practically every car was chilled or frozen. The inspectors have no authority to hold those apples up, and that is another case, Mr. Chairman, that we must have a little different arrangement with regard to.

There is another point I was going to remark on. I think it is wrong, although it is perfectly legal under the present Act, for an inspector when he finds apples falsely marked, to let those apples go forward. It seems to me that apples falsely marked should be held up on this side and should not be allowed to go on the market. There are a great many points that I might speak of along this line.

We have shipped more than five hundred cars of apples to the West, and we expect in ten years to ship five thousand cars to Winnipeg and points West, and we would like to have some system by which those apples could be inspected at the point of production, rather than inspected in the West. I am in favour, as a representative from Nova Scotia, of referring this matter to the committee and allowing them to work out some method of improvement.

Mr. THEODORE ROSS.—From the wording of this resolution, the idea is that the inspectors who are appointed should be competent fruit inspectors. From what we know of the Minister of Agriculture, we know that he is a practical fruit man and knows the conditions that are required, and he understands quite well that we should have competent inspectors. I think if the Ontario delegation had put this resolution in a straightforward way, it would have read something like this: That the Minister of Agriculture appoint competent men as fruit inspectors and that our Dominion representatives do not interfere with the appointments.

Mr. C. O. ALLEN.—You will agree with me when I say it is impossible to have all our apples inspected at the point of shipment. It is impossible to have the apples

held up subject to fruit inspection. The president of the association referred to apples that went forward in the 'Mount Temple.' They were ordered down to the steamer's side before she was ready to sail, and they had to remain there a few days at a zero temperature. Finally they were taken into an open shed and inspected, and then put into the hold of the steamer. I say it is not practical to have these apples inspected after they come out of the cars where they have been held in proper shape with stoves and heaters in the cars. They should not be put in a shed that is not frost proof, or in which there is no way of heating it up. Yet these apples had to be dumped out and thousands of barrels held there at a zero temperature. You all know the result of apples being frozen. Why should not these inspectors act as instructors? As it is at the present time, the apples are inspected at the port of shipment and are sent to England and the shipper has no redress, and has no way of repacking if they are not up to the standard. If the inspection was made at the point of production, the shipper would have better chances to take care of them. What we are clamouring for is inspection at the point of production, so that it will be an education to the farmers. (Applause). If the inspector was on hand while the apples were being packed, and if he could look into the barrels, he would see that No. 2 apples did not go into No. 1 barrels, and such inspection would help everybody in the way of education.

The CHAIRMAN.—There is one point that came up in the course of this discussion which I would like to refer to, and that is the matter of the inspector branding the package which he examines as O.K. That would introduce an entirely new principle into the working of the Fruit Marks Act, and it would mean practically official grading of the apples. The government would be stamping its approval on the barrels. I have had some experience along this line in New Zealand, where I was for a few years. There the government grades the butter and cheese and the grader puts the grade mark on each package, but they take this precaution, that once the government mark goes on a package, the shipper or owner has no further access to that package. He is absolutely prevented from coming in contact with it at all, and judging from what some of the apple shippers have just said, it would be necessary to do the same thing here. You have raised a very big question and one that will have to be carefully considered.

Mr. MCNEILL: *Honourable Martin Burrell and Gentlemen,*—I understand I have been appointed on the committee that these points are referred to, and as they are all points of detail, with the exception of those that have been dealt with, I think it would be a saving of time if I were to just act with the committee for the purpose of consultation and reserve anything I have to say until later on. I must, however, approve of the statement of Mr. Ruddick that the principle of examining at the point of production, in order to be effective at all, is going to add enormously to the cost of the apple and to the cost of production, and is going to limit consumption very seriously. Think of the result when each barrel has to be dealt with exactly as the Inland Revenue Department deals with each barrel of whiskey. Go to Walkerville, for instance, and you will find every officer of the distillery duplicated by a government official in order that there may be no tampering with the product after it has been graded and marked by the inspector. An officer walks around with the man who buys the grain, and sees it weighed. The owners of the distillery do not open their own doors, a government officer carrying a duplicate key. Are you prepared for such duplication in the case of apples? It would be necessary to prevent fraud, unless it can be shown that those who deal in apples are more honest than those who deal in commodities controlled by the Department of Inland Revenue. Look at the precautions, too, that the Customs Department has to take in the case of bonded goods in transit. Such precautions too, in the case of apples would of necessity cause delay in shipping—a most serious consideration.

I remember listening to a case where it was proved conclusively that the heads of apple barrels had been changed two or three times. It is a common trick all along

the line to change the heads. Would you like to risk your reputation on a car of apples that had been inspected and then put in an ordinary box car? What would happen to it? Do you suppose that it would remain the same? We actually had to fine people for changing the marks on barrels after they were put into the cars. They had been marked properly and put into the car under the supervision of an inspector, but after they were put into the car, what happened? The owner was an apple shipper of long experience. He got into the car from one station to another until he had time to change these marks from No. 2 to No. 1. Do you think there is only one shipper in Canada who would do that? Be honest about it, and just think what would happen.

Mr. ALLEN.—It would never happen in Nova Scotia.

Mr. MCNEILL.—That is only an extreme case, but I want to point out to you that Mr. Ruddick is perfectly right, and if you are going to introduce that new principle, then you will have to have something of the same machinery that the Department of the Interior found necessary in the growth of that particular kind of work, and the department would find it necessary to be absolutely sure that that which was marked No. 1 by the government at the point of production would be exactly the same stuff when it arrived two thousand miles away, to the consumer. Think what the price of whisky has gone up to. It used to be 15 cents a gallon, and it is now $2.50. That is not all a matter of inspection, but you would be surprised at the cost of inspection.

Mr. SHEPHERD.—Was that change you referred to made from No. 2 apples to No. 1?

Mr. MCNEILL.—Yes, that was done two years ago. They scraped off No. 2 and put on No. 1.

Mr. SNETSINGER.—If I am afraid of the inspector at the shipping point, I can send my apples by Boston or New York and ruin Canadian commerce, and ship them where the Canadian government cannot inspect them, and they would not be inspected at all. I can ship my apples to Portland, and you cannot have inspection there.

Mr. BURRELL.—Supposing you ship to Boston, it is known that that car is going across the border, and they would be inspected at the border, the same as they are inspected at the lake points now. I thoroughly appreciate the point that in some places in Nova Scotia where they have co-operative associations and large shipments go out from points of production, it would be possible to have them inspected there. I see gentlemen from my own province, Mr. Agur from Summerland, and Mr. James Rooke from Grank Forks, Mr. Pitcairn from Kelowna, and Mr. Abriel from Nakusp and the Arrow Lakes. There are dozens and dozens of these points where men would legitimately require an inspector. You have no idea of the demands that would be made, and if you once said you must inspect at the point of production, it would take a whole army of inspectors, and if you did not appoint them, the pressure on the government would be tremendous, and it would be impossible to confine it to a few points. I am anxious to meet this demand. I can understand the demand being made, and it is possible that the committee, when they get to work, may devise some way in which it can be dealt with, but believe me, it is a very much bigger scheme than the average man realizes. I know the conditions in Ontario, and all through the West, and unless there are some gentlemen who have some fresh light to throw on this subject, it will be left for the committee to take it into consideration and thresh it out.

As there are one or two other resolutions that the committee has to deal with, I might as well read them: Resolved, that we instruct our delegates to recommend that the Fruit Marks Act be so amended as to make it compulsory to mark on the outside of the box the number of apples or pears contained therein.'

Mr. ROOKE.—We do not get much description as to what sized pears are contained in a box, and we thought the American plan would be much better, and we could give the purchaser a clear idea of what he was buying by stating on the box the exact number of pears. For instance, we now mark them three or four tiers, but we think it advisable to put the exact number on the box. It is not necessary to count the apples or the pears. Whatever form you take, you must keep that same standard size right through that box, and that will give you the exact number every time.

Mr. NESBITT.—I still think it is unfair that 80 per cent of the apples bought in Ontario are represented by ten or twelve men who have come here at their own expense, and you are now going to discuss one of the most serious propositions, and none of us are allowed on as delegates. It is not fair, and I think Mr. Matthews of Cobourg and Mr. Snetsinger should be on that committee.

Mr. BURRELL.—This is not exactly the ordinary organization of the fruit shippers and packers. Strictly speaking, it is a Dominion conference of the fruit growers, and we must not get away from that idea. It was considered that the other interests should have some little representation as a matter of courtesy, and I believe there was an invitation extended, and there are a few delegates who represent other interests such as the Ontario Apple Shippers. I trust the gentlemen will not misunderstand the situation. An invitation was extended to them as a matter of courtesy and as a matter of recognition that our interests are more or less bound up together. The government is anxious to promote the interests of fruit growing right along the line, and we welcome suggestions from practical men.

Mr. NESBITT.—How are these gentlemen to get their views before the government in connection with the Fruit Marks Act, if you do not allow them to have representation on this committee?

Mr. BURRELL.—As I understand, there are two delegates here representing the Apple Buyers' interests. Am I right or wrong? (Cries of 'Right.') If I am right, surely it is possible for those who are interested in that phase of it to make these delegates thoroughly acquainted with their views. We do not desire to shut any man off. It was understood that only delegates were to be allowed to speak for the reason that it would be impossible for every outside interest to take up the time of the conference because it would be impossible to get any business done, and I am sure if these delegates are on the committee, they will give the matter satisfactory consideration, and if they do not get satisfaction, I can tell them, as Minister of Agriculture, that we shall always be ready to have a fair presentation of their views or the views of any person else. That is the business of the government (Applause).

Mr. ARMSTRONG, M.P., (Lambton).—I do not wish to take up the time of the conference, but I would like to suggest that an amendment be made to this Inspection and Fruit Sale Act along these lines; that the government be asked to amend the Inspection and Sale Act with a view of appointing inspectors in the recognized fruit districts so that inspection could be made at the point of production as far as possible. I feel that some change should be made so that the inspection can be made at the point of production, and the sooner we get down to some practical suggestion along that line and get to work and bring in a resolution that can be practically agreed on, the better it will be for the interests of the fruit men. (Applause.)

The CHAIRMAN.—Unless there is anything fresh to say on this matter, I think all these resolutions connected with the Inspection and Sale Act had better be referred to the deliberations of that committee. I have no doubt they will carefully thresh out all the points.

Mr. LICK.—I would earnestly request the committee to meet at the conclusion of this meeting in order that we may get down to business as quickly as possible

Mr. MCNEILL.—There is a good deal of inspection made at the point of production along the Lake Erie shore, and the effect of it can be very well studied.

Meeting adjourned.

THURSDAY EVENING, February 15, 1912.

PUBLIC MEETING.

DR. JAMES W. ROBERTSON occupied the chair.

At this public meeting of the conference, there was a large audience present, quite a number of members of parliament and senators availing themselves of this opportunity to see the magnificent exhibit of fruit and to hear the addresses

In opening the meeting the Chairman said:

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN: I think this conference is very highly honoured, not merely in representing an interest so important to Canada as that of fruit growing, but in being called to Ottawa to consider how this vast natural interest can be improved to the advantage of everybody. You have had some excellent papers, and I have discerned a growing ability on the part of the fruit growers themselves to discuss questions in such a manner as to enable me to offer Mr. Borden the suggestion to-night, that if he could transfer into his House these qualities of brevity, clearness, directness and sincerity that have characterized your discussions these two days, his lot would be lighter, and the time of his tarrying here would be shorter in the sessions of the House.

You are favoured also in having come to listen to your discussions, and to manifest his interest in your work, Field Marshal, His Royal Highness, the Governor General, and to-night you are further honoured in having with you the Right Honourable Mr. Borden, the Premier of Canada. (Applause.) And I am sure you appreciate his presence not only because he comes from Nova Scotia, which is renowned for excellent fruit, but because he is interested in everything that makes for the weal of Canada, its material prosperity, and providing satisfying occupations for the people; and above all else, making for that kind of earnest endeavour that brings about a sense of good-will between the man who works on the land, the merchant who handles his product, and the railway company that carries it to the market. The consumer ought to be at least abundantly satisfied when he gets his teeth into such products as are presented on this platform to-night.

I have very great pleasure in asking the Right Honourable Mr. Borden to address the convention.

ADDRESS

Right Honourable R. L. BORDEN, Premier of the Dominion of Canada.

When the Right Honourable Mr. Borden rose to address the audience, he was received with great applause. He said as follows:—

Mr. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN: I am very glad indeed to have the opportunity of saying just a few words to you this evening, although I did not come here for the purpose of making a speech, and I trust that by my example this even-

ing, I may be enabled to show that on some occasions at least, a member of parliament is capable of being brief. (Laughter.)

This convention and conference of fruit growers has among its members representatives from every province of Canada. It may be called a parliament, I suppose, of the fruit growers of this country. When I was on my way here this evening, I had no idea whatever that I should see such a splendid exhibit of the production of Canada in fruit as that which I had the pleasure of witnessing when I entered this building.

We who are engaged in the active work of the public life of this country must necessarily be concerned with everything that makes for the welfare of the country. I suppose that one of the chief objects of any government, in a country possessing the resources of Canada, ought to be the aim of assisting, in every way in which the State can properly co-operate, those who are living upon the land, and who are direct producers from the soil. I think there can be no doubt whatever about that as the general principle and policy which should direct the efforts of those who, for the time being, may be entrusted with the direction of public affairs in this country. We know a great deal has been done in many countries in the world in the way of co-operation between the State and individual, because effort is most successful when best directed, and there are countries in the world where the State has co-operated to the very great advantage of the people and a very great consequent advantage to the State itself in giving to the people who are engaged in producing from the soil such assistance, such co-operation, such advantages of education in everything that pertains to the production from the soil as makes the result of the producer very much greater than it otherwise would be. It is the aim, I am sure, of men in public life in this country, whether belonging to one political party or the other, to accomplish results of that kind in Canada, and I am very glad indeed to feel that the Department of Agriculture under the guidance of my friend, Mr. Burrell, is prepared to co-operate in every way with the producers of Canada for the purpose of accomplishing the best results. (Applause.)

It is perfectly true that Mr. Burrell has under his control and charge many varied subjects, because not only have we entrusted agriculture to him, but we have given him census and statistics, quarantine and public health, copyrights and patents and a great many other things which are not, strictly speaking, associated with agriculture. Perhaps the chief matter which the Department of Agriculture has in charge is the great subject of production from the soil.

I would not pretend to give any suggestions to you to-night with respect to a matter as to which I cannot profess to be an authority, and especially would shrink from doing so in the presence of gentlemen here who have made these matters their life study, but I do venture to think that, without going beyond the bounds of federal jurisdiction, without entrenching on those powers which are assigned to the province of Canada, the federal government can do very much indeed by way of co-operation to assist in this great work.

We have had an opportunity of placing before parliament the rudiments of a scheme which we hope will commend itself to parliament and which will involve co-operation between the government of Canada and the government of every province in Canada to the end that we may, as far as possible, assist the people of Canada in this way. We hope to co-operate with the various provinces in line with what has already been undertaken in more than one province in Canada during recent years, and that is to bring education to the farmer upon the land and to give him that education by way of practical demonstrations as well as by other methods.

I do not pretend to yet understand or realize, nor do I suppose my friend, Mr. Burrell, pretends to fully grasp, as yet, the methods by which this idea can be carried out, but I do venture to suggest that it is an idea, as far as the federal government is concerned, which can be carried out with a great deal of advantage. I have no doubt that you are already aware that before fully carrying into effect and formulat-

ing any such scheme as I have mentioned to-night, it is the intention of the federal government to make a careful investigation and thorough study of the whole question from one end of Canada to the other, in order that when we come before parliament at the next session, after having an opportunity of making this investigation and this study, we may be prepared with some measure which will enable us to carry out in Canada that which has been carried out in other countries in the world with very great advantage to the people and consequent advantage to the State.

In conclusion, I thank you very heartily indeed for the opportunity of saying these few words, and I would like to express once more the earnest desire of the federal government to assist in every way in making life upon the land in Canada all that it ought to be. (Great applause.) The tendency in a great many countries in the world and even in countries that are by no means old, is to flock from the land to the cities and we observe that tendency already in Canada. It is a natural tendency, I suppose, in a country which aims at a certain industrial growth. In view of that tendency in other countries as well as in our own, by every possible means within our power, by improving all our public highways, by improved methods of agriculture leading to better quality and increased production, by better means of transportation and cheaper means of transportation and by systems of cold storage, by everything that induces to the highest production and the best quality and the best means of transportation to the market whether at home or abroad, in respect of all these matters, it is the duty of the federal government, and it is our intention and desire to do everything that can legitimately be done for the producers of Canada, whether those who are engaged in agricultural products in the strict sense of the word, or those such as I see before me to-night who are engaged in this very great industry of fruit growing.

I, therefore, welcome very warmly indeed, your presence here in Ottawa for the purpose of debating these matters and holding your parliament, and I trust very much good may come from this conference. I can only assure you once more of the strong sympathy of the federal government and our earnest desire to do everything which we can in the way of assisting your endeavours. (Applause.)

ADDRESS.

Dr. J. W. Robertson:

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,—I must thank the Minister of Agriculture, and you may blame him, for putting me on the responsibility of making a short speech. True to his instinct as a skilful fruit grower, he planned to have a 'facer' at both ends and a 'filler' in the middle. I am the filler on the programme to-night. You will have a 'facer' to match the one you have had, when you have Mr. Burrell's speech later in the evening. That will be your consolation for enduring mine.

Since a Dominion Fruit Growers' conference was held six years ago, I think the fruit growers have been growing, growing in insights, in discernments and in the interpretation of their own experiences and growing in appreciations of the value and benefits of others who do not grow fruit.

I propose in the short time I will occupy, to remind you of a few first principles. Men like you who get to the very top of the tree in their occupation are apt to become rather short visioned towards some of the first principles that governed them as boys. I am staying at that youthful level and I suppose I will stay there for the rest of my life. While you are conferring on some national aspects of fruit growing, you are doing it from the personal point of view. The man who comes from British Columbia or Prince Edward Island, does not come here to discuss theories in the abstract. You contribute your quota of knowledge of things, of relations, of efforts as known to you from the book of experience. You bring knowledge and you bring ability to express opinions that have been ripened out of endeavours to meet your own circumstances and

discharge your own duty at your own place. That is worth while. And you bring also good-natured rivalry—the rivalry that provokes to good works. When men are cheerful and enthusiastic and have a wholesome appreciation of the conditions of the different provinces, of the efforts of the men in the different provinces and of the good spirit of these men in their efforts towards making most of their conditions, they all do better for themselves and contribute all they can to the welfare of Canada, more fruit and better fruit and greater satisfactions. I hope you will have these in the coming years and in ever growing measure.

In a conference like this, one does not discuss as in farmers' institutes, the details of the processes of production. Still it is worth while to look at some of the national aspects of production, distribution and consumption. I have noticed that wherever fruit growing has been largely developed in a locality, the development was due to a man or men and not to superior natural advantages. I can put my finger on counties where fruit growing has flourished with the largest measure of satisfaction, that have not nearly as good natural advantages as other localities where fruit growing is hardly followed at all. It is a question of men and management. It is not the case that we must depend upon having conditions without drawbacks and difficulties. The increase and improvement of production must depend upon men who have fine initiative, sound intelligence and plenty of wholesome persevering diligence. These are the requirements of a good fruit grower. Capable management stands out supreme above even natural advantages. To observe carefully, to think clearly and consecutively, to learn from others and then to put these together with the least possible waste, that is fruit growing, and perhaps that is all there is to progress in education and in management. Whatever the means or method, that is the general end—close observation, clear thinking, learning from others and putting all together towards having the desirable happen to oneself and in one's surroundings.

What has the fruit grower to manage? To manage the lands and plants and men and women and their doings. That is where the trouble comes in,—chiefly in the latter. There is where most of your discussions centre with keenness—in the men and women and their doings. You have some trouble in managing land, and the restatement of a few first principles may help even the experienced fruit growers to go back to their problems and manage them better. If you all had perfect soil and perfect climate and a perfect fruit buyer and a perfect railway and shipping system and perfect consumers, you would be abundantly happy; so we suppose. These things never occur in that perfect condition or sequence. The only time when fruit growing was carried on under such conditions man came to grief. Fruit growing is like life, it does not consist in making the best out of the best things, but it is making the most and the best out of poor things. What is your land? It is particles of broken down rocks that once were solid and beautiful and symmetrical and have gone to ruin from the rock point of view. It is broken down plant life—the remains of things that once lived, and the rotting bodies of animals that preceded us. That is what the fruit growers have to find fruit from—the broken down remains of things that once as separates were good in themselves for their time and place.

Then fruit growing has to do with water and the germs in the soil that are preparing the food supply. These things and their relations are hard to manage with success to provide the root hold and the food supply. Dirt and air and the 'wind that bloweth where it listeth,' and sunshine, these are the raw materials; and then by management, you have plants and flowers and fruit. Macoun may plant, McNeill may water, but it is God who giveth the increase.

May I say a word about the part of management that is called cultivation. I talked to a good many fruit growers when making our inquiry not merely into industrial training for factories, but industrial training for the farms and orchards. Why does an orchardist apply a system of cultivation known as clean cultivation, followed by a cover crop? I do not find many men who give me the impression that they have grasped the first principles for the practice. It is largely a question of letting the

plant have enough water without letting it drink itself into a wrong condition. An acre of apple trees, drinks in a year about 1,000 tons of water. Trees are great on the water question. One thousand tons to the acre! One acre of grass drinks about 600 tons in the year. In many places in Canada, the water supply is none too abundant up to the time the fruit is fully formed. In some years, it is too abundant after that. So if the fruit grower can have clean cultivation early in the season, which means a conservation of the water until his apples are about fully grown, and then have the cover crop coming on to take any excess of water out of the land, he will manage to control the conditions and make the fruit ripen up. Besides the cover crop puts the land in the very best condition for giving the apple trees a fine start the next spring. These are the first principles, and the grower who has them clearly in his mind, can use clean cultivation and a cover crop to advantage under varying circumstances. Although he cannot control the climate he can control some of the results from it and get better fruit and far more of it.

In the management of plants, we sometimes forget that plants are individuals. In the case of school children, we have committed the mistake of treating them like tender plants to be managed without regard to habits of activity and standards and conscience. We have made a lot of unhappiness in life by having all the children sit together and sit perfectly still, and then do the same thing in the same way and at the same time. Children were not born all alike. They have differences of will and ability, of capacity and quality of life and you have differences in every apple tree, not merely in the name of the variety as in the name of the race, but differences in the ability and capacity and quality of life. It is worth while to choose the scions from the best trees to perpetuate their capacities and qualities. That determines the inherent power of the plant; and management is to give that power an opportunity to find exercise on your farm for your service.

The tree, as far as I know, has no power to digest food inside and the fruit growers' business is to see that it is fed with pre-digested food from outside. There is your cultivation to get the soil full of the millions of germs to act as cooks and nurses. You will have many millions more to the cubic inch in land that is cultivated occasionally and gets manure occasionally, than you will have in the sod field, many more millions of cooks to the cubic inch at your service pre-digesting the food the trees need. The tree takes only such pre-digested or soluble materials into its circulation and assimilates them into the fruit afterwards. Your tree should have a reasonably good circulation. The favourable conditions are similar to those in human life - plenty of food, plenty of water, vigorous work (clean cultivation), a clear skin, fresh air and sunshine. Given these and there will be no trouble with the circulation in a normal person; and that is your fruit tree exactly. A clean skin on the tree means spraying and keeping off the blight and fungus growths and scale insects.

Spraying is the application of some of these first principles. Pruning is protection against selfishness in the tree—you will not forget that. You might forget it if I told you about pruning at certain times with certain tools, but pruning is a process against selfishness in the tree, keeping the tree from living for itself and making the tree, by your superior management, live for you. That is pruning. Thinning the fruits is protecting the tree against self sacrifice, against becoming too much like the mother with excess of love for her offspring, spending and being spent until there is no strength left. To the cultivation and pruning, thinning should be added, not so much to obtain bigger specimens of fruit as to get a moderate load of fruit that the tree may live long to give you fine service. Spraying is protecting against outside enemies. By these you lay the restraining hand of intelligent control and good management upon the plant in order to make it do its best. It costs about 20 cents per tree to spray four times in the season. Years ago when I was more intimately connected with this work, the average return from sprayed trees was at least $1.50 per tree more. By spending 20 cents the fruit grower could make $1.50, have a better tree and be himself a better manager. Where trees were not

sprayed, they gave in unfavourable seasons 10 per cent of number one apples and in favourable seasons up to 50 per cent of number one apples, while the sprayed trees gave from 80 per cent to 90 per cent of number one apples in all seasons. That shows the great benefit of spraying. Every one who sprays his trees should try to have every other man spray also, because any fruit which is poor and unsightly might possibly cut off a good customer.

Mr. Metcalfe at Collingwood, Ontario, one of the district representatives, found a small orchard that had never yielded its owner more than $50 in any one year. He spent $50 on it, gave it good management, and it brought in $250. That is an instance of what may be expected from management. He did not change the climate or the soil of the trees. He redeemed this orchard from being an encumbrance to being a fine productive asset.

Mr. Shearer of Simcoe joined the Co-operative Fruit-Growers' Association. He had two acres of apple trees and had never gotten more than $75 a year up to 1906. After he joined the co-operative association, he adopted better methods. In 1910, he received $350 from his orchard, and in 1911, $432.20 from the same trees with hardly any more labour or money put out. That sort of management is possible, not only in exceptional cases, but it can be multiplied all over the country. Instead of encouraging the planting of orchards on new areas, let us try to make the present areas yield more and better fruit and larger profits.

Management has to do with the distribution of the fruits. There you have to do with men and their doings and the problem becomes increasingly difficult. Distribution includes every movement between the tree and the teeth of the eater. It demands a great deal of care and skill and unfaltering honesty.

Let me put a parenthesis in here for the committee considering the Fruit Inspection and Sale Act. I would not put any bias in their minds. The law is not made for the well doer, but for the evil doer, so we learn from ancient reliable authority. So far as the law may be formulated to prevent fraudulent packing and fraudulent marking, you may require one kind of administration; and so far as the law may be framed to promote commerce and to facilitate business, you may require a different kind of administration. It is worth while bearing in mind that while these two objects are not opposed to each other, they do not include precisely the same things.

When I went before the House of Commons Committee of Agriculture on the question of the law which was asked for by the fruit growers to prevent fraudulent packing and fraudulent marking, my most convincing arguments were in the form of several baskets of small worthless apples that had been sent back to me from England, out of the heart of barrels marked 'No. 1 XXXX.' On the other hand, I am informed that last year there came back from England, practically no complaint regarding the packing or marking of Canadian apples. That shows a good deal of progress. Other forms and kinds of assistance to the fruit industry by means of legislation may be necessary. On that I express no opinion, but while you who are here may be all right as honest packers and shippers, there may be somebody against whose tendency to wrong doing the law should stand like an inexorable bar.

There has been great progress in the safe carriage of apples and other fruit on the steamships where the damage used to be the greatest, and less progress in the accommodation for carrying fruit on the railways. There has been insufficient supply of good ventilated cars. That is susceptible of improvement and needs improvement.

In the problems of consumption of fruits, you have to deal with the management of women and their doings,—and that is the most serious and merry task of mankind. Women determine rate and kind of consumption and so it is worth while having them on our side as fruit growers' and fruit distributors. They determine what the family eats as food for sustenance and for satisfaction as pleasurable delicacies. You can please the women by giving them more of what they like best. That brings to mind a story told by my old friend Ex-Governor Hoard who used to visit Canada

from Wisconsin. A shy young fellow was not making headway with his tender suit. He thought the lady did not like him or his ways. He sought advice from a shrewd old politician who recommended this formula: 'If you want a woman to love you well and long, fill her up full of love of herself and what runs over is yours.' I do not suppose that is at all good philosophy for love making, or for life, but it is a good maxim for fruit growers when seeking to extend their markets, the consumption of their customers—give her more of what she likes best, fruits that are nice in appearance, in nice packages and that have a particularly agreeable and pleasant flavour and what of her liking runs over will determine the rate of consumption, will keep the old customers and get you plenty of new ones.

Co-operative associations help to keep up a regular supply of suitable fruit. There are now eighty such associations against half a dozen six years ago. You need a well planned, skilfully conducted and loyally supported propaganda in Canada on behalf of the consumption of more fruit. Look at any of the modern developments in the commerce of distribution. The men who make the thing go are the men who advertise with the greatest skill. I do not admire that myself, still if I wanted to get customers, I might have to play the game that way. Exhibitions of fruit, like this one, but multiplied at the proper season, would form a fine propaganda to increase consumption. If it induced 500 more women in Ottawa to admire fruit and buy fruit and get the family into the habit of consuming fruit regularly, that would establish a wider home market here. The same could be done in every town in Canada by a skilfully conducted propaganda like what the orange growers have been keeping up. They have increased the consumption of their fruit and they are able to put far more fruit into the market than they could otherwise do. You want skilfully prepared press articles. It is wonderful how the public will swallow what they see in the papers and then swallow what it recommends. Why should patent medicine fellows spend millions on that sort of thing if our people did not swallow what they read of in the press, including concoctions that are not patent medicines? A skilfully conducted campaign of judicious advertising, supported by every fruit grower in Canada, would do good. It is worth your while to have such a campaign here and in England where our best outside market is. If such a campaign were conducted with assiduity, it would widen the market so that it would take care of all the fruit we can grow; and if the existing orchards are going to be increased from $75 to $432, we must have a widening outflow of consumption or we will have stagnation and disappointment.

The enlargement of this remunerative and satisfying occupation would benefit the individuals and add to the prosperity of the nation as a whole. Our progress will be by means of education, education, education, with co-operation, co-operation, co-operation, and legislation supporting these two forms of activity in every community.

As fruit growers and handlers you will no doubt see your own interests as separates, standing alone as children see their possessions, you will also see your interests in their relationships to others working for the weal of all Canada and binding it together as citizens see their obligations, and you will more and more recognize your duties as trustees for the fruit interests as such, for the quality of the life of the people of Canada, and for chances for your children and seeing the values of these and seeking only those values which are worth while you will further enrich your contributions to the enduring prosperity of Canada.

I thank you for listening to me so long.

The CHAIRMAN.—It now gives me much pleasure to ask the Minister of Agriculture, the Honourable Martin Burrell, to deliver an address.

ADDRESS.

Hon. Martin Burrell, Minister of Agriculture.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, and Fellow Fruit Growers.—Dr. Robertson who is an old friend of the farmers and fruit growers of Canada, has said, as he always says, a good many wise things, a good many philosophic things and a good many things that must stimulate us and do us good. I find myself nearly always stimulated by anything I hear from him and able to carry away something that perhaps will enable one to do one's work a little better. Occasionally I hear him say things that I cannot always agree with, but fortunately, I did not give him much chance this time. He made a bad break or two the other day at a meeting and I told him I could not agree.

In the first place, allow me to congratulate you, Mr. Ruddick and those who arranged this beautiful exhibition, not only on the beauty of it, but on its value from an educational point of view in the way it is put up. I have had a little to do with this sort of work for a few years past, and I can assure our eastern friends who are not accustomed so much to the box packing, that you have here a very good sample indeed of the best kind of box packing. Another thing that I was struck with as being peculiarly appropriate to a conference of National Fruit Growers and it is that motto above the exhibit: 'The Fruit Growing Possibilities of Canada are Unsurpassed,' all the provinces being outlined below and all joining in the common end for the welfare of Canada, their common country. (Great applause.)

Yesterday we had some short speeches from a great many of our friends who have the misfortune to live outside British Columbia, but for whom we have as British Columbians a very warm feeling. There was my friend from Nova Scotia who got up and remarked that Nova Scotia has been overlooked. We did not notice anything of that kind in meeting their competition on the prairies this year. We got the idea that they were getting rather aggressive, and so far as being overlooked, we had a market we thought we had a fairly good title to. I do not think Nova Scotia is very much overlooked. I have a pretty warm spot in my heart for Nova Scotia. It was not overlooked when Canada had to go there to pick out its prime minister, and when we had to get a prime minister for British Columbia, we had to get him educated in Nova Scotia, and when we got an Attorney General, we picked him also from Nova Scotia. When I went down there two years ago to spend Christmas with some old friends, I gave an address at the Canadian Club and told them at the conclusion that from the type of brainy men they were turning out, they had supplied us with a prime minister and an Attorney General—and they had enough material to supply all the other provinces with these officials as well. We have warm regard for the history of Nova Scotia and what she stands for in Canadian national life, and I think we shall hear from Nova Scotia in the future. I think Nova Scotia, in common with all three maritime provinces perhaps, has not achieved the great advances that their possibilities and potentialities in some directions should enable them to achieve, but I do believe that we shall witness a revival of agriculture, a strong revival of a progressive kind in these maritime provinces that will astonish the west.

We had some of our friends out at the Central Experimental Farm yesterday, and out there we have an able and aggressive young man from Prince Edward Island in charge of a department, and I heard a gentleman from that province say they were overlooked. We know it is not a very big province, but we know they are a people who spread abroad and this young man at the Farm let out the fact that he had twenty-six cousins in Vancouver, and outside of Prince Edward Island, the only other place he thought any good was British Columbia.

As far as Quebec is concerned—I am politician enough not to let any province go by—it has been remarked here before that Quebec has the honour of sending two men here to the conference who have been sent from Quebec to every fruit conference since 1890, and certainly when they send gentlemen like Mr. Brodie and our good

friend, Mr. Shepherd, who stand for so much that is progressive, and who have done so much for scientific agriculture, I say these men stand for a great deal in the province of Quebec, and we hope they will yet be able to do a great deal more for Quebec in the future.

I am not going to allude to that dangerous subject of the qualities of fruit, because I learned my lesson from Mr. Fisher last year. I was in the House when he made that famous remark that Quebec could raise the finest apples that were grown in Canada, and of course, as a loyal British Columbian and a member of the Opposition, two distinct advantages in those days, when I heard that remark I had to immediately enter a disclaimer and to hold up British Columbia, and I found I had let loose such a flood of discord on the unhappy minister's head that the rest of the afternoon developed into an apple discussion—the apple of discord rolling all over the House. At the end of about three hours, a facetious gentleman in the press gallery sent down a note to me saying, 'You are getting on very (h) appley.'

I am not going to say much about Ontario. I am an old Ontario man myself, and there are a lot of aggressive Ontario men, and we all know what Ontario's progress has been. We know that she has something like 320,000 acres of orchard land, and is in a very large measure producing the fruit that Canada has got a splendid name for in our own markets and in Great Britain. Ontario has another great thing to her credit. She is equipping at her educational centres a fine type of the younger generation and she has contributed a very great deal to the rest of the country in carrying on that work.

I cannot refer to the prairie provinces at length. I would like to go into the question of their varieties of fruit—it would not take very long, I suppose. (Laughter.) I think we can say that Manitoba deserved a great deal of credit for sending to this conference fruit like that which we see in the exhibit, and I am glad to see that the gentleman who is here as a delegate and who represents the prairie provinces in fruit growing, is Professor Broderick, who when I knew him first was a little chap living near St. Catharines. I am glad to say he has used his possibilities in Ontario to the best advantage, and is now occupying a position which does him credit and his fine province credit.

I have cleaned off all the other provinces and I have come to the Rocky Mountains. I suppose it would be extremely indiscreet for me to say anything about British Columbia, seeing I come from that province. The farther west you go, the more vigorous is the spirit of optimism. Some unkind person has said, 'The farther you go west, the bigger the braggart, the taller the stories and the taller the lies.' It is perhaps true that the farther you go west, you do get bigger stories and more robust optimism, because the great possibilties of nature are there, and not only is the country huge but the men unconsciously get big ideas. They do not, perhaps, always live up to them. Sometimes their ideals are like the Irishman's pig when he killed it, he said it did not weigh as much as he expected and he never supposed it would. But there is no doubt about it, we do have that optimism and a strong belief in our own future and a robust faith in the development of the country. That is our feeling and we express it, sometimes in a very strong way and our good friends in the east know how to discount it perhaps if they want to.

I have watched with a great deal of interest and participated to some extent in the development of the fruit industry of British Columbia. I cannot speak at any length of it to-night but I would like our eastern friends to realize that the progress that has been of a marvelous kind there, has been achieved with a great many difficulties that those in the east have not had to face. I know that in my own very immense riding. I have one of those little pocket burroughs that touches the international boundary line at the south and whose north end touches the Yukon, so you can understand I cover quite a large portion of territory. It is about three times as big as the whole of the Maritime Provinces put together and it happens to embrace a very large portion of the fruit growing districts of British Columbia. We can

hardly realize the difficulties that faced those men who first embarked in horticulture, where the trees that were planted were brought on horseback over mountains and over very difficult and dangerous trails, and where they had to ford ice cold rivers, literally putting themselves and their horses in danger of death, and finally planted these first small orchards. Some of the trees lived, and are living even to-day, to bear witness to the heroism of the earlier settlers. When you realize what they accomplished, you cannot help having admiration for the pioneers who planted the first trees west of the Rocky Mountains, practically in my own lifetime, and that to-day we have 100,000 acres of orchards in the province. (Applause.) It is a satisfaction not only to ourselves but to you.

Last year we had in Vancouver for the first time, a national apple show, the success of which was in a great measure due to the efforts of a British Columbia gentleman, Mr. Maxwell Smith. We had the keenest of competition from Hood River in Oregon and from other places. I speak from a personal standpoint, because I happened to be one of the judges and it took four of us five days. You could hardly distinguish a hair's breadth between the bulge, they were packed so uniformly, and in some cases, we had to unwrap three or four tiers and score a man down a point if there was a single stem of an apple out—pretty fine work. It was a satisfaction to us as British Columbians and should be to you as Canadians to find that in the face of that extremely severe competition, although we gave away $25,000 worth of prizes, the $1,000 cup that was given for the best carload of apples was won in a carload of magnificent Jonathans, packed and grown in the district of Kelowna, represented here by Mr. Pitcairn, and packed largely by the same Mr. Gibb who packed this display behind me, and whom we loaned to the Guelph Short Course during the past two weeks. Time will not permit me to talk any more of my own province, and I must remember I am Minister of Agriculture not for British Columbia but for the whole country. I know no province, I simply know Canada, and my duty is simply to support the interests of all Canada.

What is to be the history of our country? It has been as Dr. Robertson finely described, the history of the settlement of the land and the history of the settlement of the land is bound up with the interest and settlement of the land in a horticultural way. In the old pioneer days in Nova Scotia and Quebec and elsewhere, when a man began to hew his home out of the wilderness, coming from the United States with that band of U. E. Loyalists who forsook their land and came to the wilderness for the sake of their flag, one of the first things he did was to try to plant a small orchard and that created a home in the real sense of the word. Our earliest associations are those when as boys, we played around the old apple trees. The very scent of the apple blossoms almost comes back to one's nostrils as we think of those old days, to many of us long gone by. But it is a good thing to keep the spirit of the boy, for everything that is wholesome and sweet and innocent in life, and without keeping some of that spirit, it is absolutely certain that a man as he gets older can do no real work for his generation. We should be proud as fruit growers to realize that the men who embarked in orchard work did great work for Canada because it is not as it is with the man who settles in grain growing purely or even in cattle raising. I have a great admiration for what has been done by farmers in every kind of work. We had a most important gathering here this week, the National Live Stock Association. It is to our interest that the live stock industry should be strongly developed. It is not that I do not recognize deeply and feel an interest in every other kind of agriculture, but with regard to fruit growing, I suppose, I can say it is not that 'I love Cæsar less but I love Rome more.' We are not nomads in the ordinary sense of the word because when a man planted a tree, it struck its roots down in the soil and he had to wait with hope and patience to see the fruit of his labour, and that helped to create the home feeling. It helped literally to transform and harmonize the whole landscape, and in that way the finest lines of our life were developed along horticul-

tural lines, as differentiated from those of purely agricultural or stock raising. Therefore, I say, I think the rest of the country owes something to the horticulturist. From the little plot of orchard land, began the development of larger love for this class of work, and we have amongst us, in various parts of the country, men like Mr. Gibb and others who have a keen and strong love for this work and endeavour to improve it generally for the pure love of it. We have the class of men who lead the development and improvement in a scientific study of horticulture and we should gratefully realize and recognize the labours of men of this type. In the United States and Canada we owe some of the best varieties that we are growing at the present time, and whose usefulness has not been eclipsed in spite of all the varieties that have been introduced in the last forty or fifty years, to these early settlers—the old varieties like the Wagener and the Jonathan, and the Baldwin that were propogated sixty or seventy years ago. To my mind the men who devoted their lives to make their country sweeter and more wholesome, are just as deserving of the recognition of their country as a great many gentlemen who pose on statues and who do not deserve the honours half as well. (Applause.)

Professor Robertson stated just now that everybody should eat lots of fruit, and I should like to say a word in that respect. It would be a good thing if people ate more fruit, because we would have a better people, mentally, physically and morally. I speak as a fruit grower and fruit eater. I have heard my friend, the cattleman, talk a good deal lately, and one of the subjects he talks about as to the development of the cattle industry, is the balanced ration and the proper form of feeding. But if we all had to live upon nothing but meat, we would be a pretty poor type of man, and even those who believe there is nothing like the good old pork, fail to recognize that the pork would be no good if he had not apple sauce with it. (Applause.)

I have a Nova Scotia friend who happens to be rather a prominent man as a cleric. I am not going to mention his name, but he never thinks of putting by less than eleven barrels of apples for his winter use. (Applause.) That is the kind of a parson we should encourage, because you cannot believe for one moment that a minister of the Gospel who could consume eleven barrels of apples would be anything but a man who could preach the mellowest, juciest, sweetest and most wholesome kind of a sermon possible. (Applause.) Certainly you would never have a long sermon, because he would always be hurrying up to fourthly and fifthly in order to get back to the eleven barrels of apples. (Laughter and applause.)

Once a year when the birthday occurred of our late whip, Mr. George Taylor, now Senator Taylor, and occasionally when some other individual had a birthday, some member procured a lot of apples and as recognition of the fact of these members' birthday, placed two nice red apples on every members' desk. You have no idea of the charm and harmony that seemed to pervade that chamber when you came in and saw all these vigorous and aggressive members of parliament sitting up munching apples and putting them in their pockets. The effect of that on legislative bodies would be immense, and I would suggest that the practice be encouraged. (Laughter.) At all events, it is our business as fruit growers to preach that doctrine.

I used to be an institute worker and I used a story at one time which was absolutely true. I had the tables of the criminology in Switzerland, that gave the percentage of professions from which these criminals were drawn. I will not go into the details, but the recollection is that the people who stood at the top of the list as criminals were people of a political type. (Laughter.) And I know also that away up in the percentage came the lawyers. The farmers were at the bottom of the list—fewer criminals amongst them. After a meeting at Kingston, a lot of us went to the penitentiary. It was the first occasion on which I met my predecessor, the Hon. Mr. Fisher, and my friend Mr. Ruddick, who is on the platform. I met both these gentlemen in Kingston for the first time. We were all in the penitentiary for a short time during that visit and the warden told us that although he had had one or two farmers, he had never had a fruit grower in the penitentiary. (Applause.) I understand he

qualified that subsequently by saying that he thought there was one, but he had proved to be a nursery man. (Laughter and applause.)

I am addressing a number of exceedingly practical men but I do not want to touch on technical subjects, but I would like to point out that horticulture has done a great deal and is going to do a great deal for this country in its development. In the first place, it builds up in Canada exactly the kind of population that Canada wants. They settle closely together, because it requires a lot more labour than ordinary farm occupations, and in that way it contributes largely to the development of the rural life. It is doing immense work commercially, because our friends of the railways say that ten acres of orchard will give as much actual traffic to the railway as 100 acres of grain. I know what you are doing here. I have witnessed the expansion in Ontario in the last twenty-eight years, and I am witnessing now the enormous expansion that is going to take place in our own province in the way of traffic to the railways.

I heard some figures given this afternoon. I have some delicacy in speaking about the census, and it would not become me to criticise the census figures. I am not responsible for them. I notice that in British Columbia this year, the census figures are giving us a position with regard to the development of our fruit growing that really represents about what it was in 1906. In fact in making a speech on that somewhat historical occasion, the Reciprocity Debate in the House of Commons, I took a great deal of pains to gather the figures in connection with the fruit industry in Canada, and I had a great deal of difficulty in doing so. It was after much trouble that I got any approximate idea of the acreage, and I was rather surprised to find the other day when I got our latest census figures that they certainly do not begin to represent the true state of affairs as far as the development goes in British Columbia, where we certainly have not less than at least double the figures that are given. We must admit there has been a great expansion and we must remember that we are here to help in that great expansion. One never wants to forget the fact that however much we may cater to that big foreign market, we can still in a far more effective way cater to the home market.

I notice with interest that you have some resolutions providing for increased inspection and to eliminate those words 'for export only,' the suggestion being that everything should be inspected. I have a great deal of sympathy for that view. I have always maintained that we should try to pack as carefully for the customer we are going to sell to next door as for the man four thousand miles away.

You are here to discuss a lot of practical questions and you are expecting to urge upon the government, certain lines of legislation. I hope you will be reasonable in your presentation, because the government does get a great many unreasonable suggestions, and we are not meeting in the House of Commons a great number of fruit growers or farmers. You meet there a comparatively small number of farmers and still smaller proportion of fruit growers. I happened to be the only fruit grower in the last parliament, and I do not know whether there is any other member who is strictly a fruit grower in this parliament. We meet a great many men who have very little, and sometimes absolutely nothing to do with agriculture, and who have not the same desire to help legislation of that kind, and for that reason, it is absolutely necessary that you should put up the fullest justification to the minister when you ask him to take any steps. I heard one gentleman say yesterday: 'Now, we will pass your resolution as long as you pass ours.' Of course, that is very nice, but it is not very nice for the minister, because if you take that line, I would have very much sifting to do afterwards. It is much more easy to pass resolutions here than it is in the House of Commons.

You also have suggestions to meet here oftener than every six years. With that I am quite in sympathy. I do not know that it would be well to set a fixed period, every two, three or four years, or whether it should be left to the minister to decide whether the urgency of a particular occasion might require you to meet oftener than that.

A great deal has been said about packages and packing and the size of packages and the methods of packing, the size of the fruit and so on. There is one thing that never should be forgotten, and that is that it is vital to make a package not only the right size but to have the whole thing put up in the most attractive form. There is a good deal in the way a thing looks. Everybody must admit when they see the enormous expense and trouble that people go to in lines of commercial work to make a package look attractive, that there is something in the looks. A great many people will buy on the looks of a thing. I do not say we should work this to the point of deception; I do not believe we should. We should make things as good as they look. I am glad to say that in this connection, the Toronto Exhibition, which after all, whatever province we come from, we must admit is perhaps the only exhibition in Canada that can really be described as national in character—Toronto came to the government this year with a very strong appeal for a substantial grant for the purpose of putting up a great big building costing about a quarter of a million dollars—a substantial steel and cement structure—for the purpose of having a house, comfortable and ample for the exhibits from all the different provinces, and we met them in a generous spirit and gave them a grant believing it is good for every one of the provinces. (Applause.)

There is no trouble when men pack honestly and well: We are legislating against sinners all the time and the law would not be required if it were not for the sinners. There is a type of men who just live within the limits of the law and if you give them a chance to crawl a little lower down, they will get lower. Such men will never try to work up, but they will get lower. Such men will never try to work up, but they will get found out some day. We all get found out with bad work in the long run. I have seen all sorts of people who think they can escape. It is true

> "The mills of the gods grind slow,
> But they grind exceedingly small"

and that reminds me of the story of Deacon Jones.

Deacon Jones occupied a very prominent position in the church and was esteemed as a very excellent man, but he did a great many tricks that were not strictly honest. He became very, very ill and the people in the congregation were alarmed and had a bulletin board placed outside the church. At nine in the morning it read: 'Deacon Jones very low' at ten o'clock 'Deacon Jones sinking fast. Not expected to live long.' The bulletin at eleven o'clock said: 'Deacon Jones ascended to heaven 11.00 a.m.' About three o'clock in the afternoon somebody put another bulletin up ' 3.00 p.m.—Great excitement in heaven, Deacon Jones not yet arrived.' (Laughter).

We are all practical men who work not only for the advancement of Canadian horticulture, and the advancement of our own interests, but we should work for the interests of Canada as a whole. You are doing a great work for Canada and you are attracting what we want to attract—the best kind of mankind to Canada. I do not know of a better advertisement, especially in Great Britain, than by advertising in every legitimate way the great horticultural resources of Canada and what has been accomplished in horticulture. We have tried to do that in British Columbia and we have had a great deal of success along that line. I have found in speaking along these lines in England that there was no need to exaggerate or tell fairy tales. The truth is good enough to be told about Canada. (Great applause.) I hold that a man is absolutely doing injury to his own country if he goes over to Great Britain, or sends anybody else there, to mislead any one about the conditions in this country, because if one man comes out here and is disappointed he is going to do more harm than ten good men who are satisfied. Therefore, it is better to speak the truth and we will undoubtedly reap the reward.

They had a very peculiar conception of our country a few years ago, but they are getting rapidly disillusioned. I remember when in England four years ago hearing of a trial in London of some man who had done some dreadful deed, and in the course of the trial, evidence was produced by the defendant to show his great un-

settled mental condition. His wife was giving evidence and among other things that she said, to show his mental disarrangement, was that her husband shortly before had threatened either to drown himself or to go to Canada. You can quite understand what a dreadful state the man was in. I pointed out to these people that that was not the kind of citizen we wanted out here, and if any gentleman was contemplating drowning himself or coming to Canada, we would much prefer that he should drown himself because he would not do us much good.

Let me thank you for so patiently listening to my rambling talk, and to congratulate you as fruit growers in coming here in the business-like way in which you are going about your meetings. I hope to have the pleasure of hearing something more of the discussions and I trust something good will come out of them. Speaking personally, as well as speaking as a member of the government, I am delighted to have you here and to wish you, as I do from the bottom of my heart, not only a pleasant stay during the time you are in Ottawa but a safe return home and all kinds of prosperity in prosecuting your work in the future. (Applause.)

The Chairman.—I am sure you must be gratified to have heard from the head of the Government of Canada, and the head of one of the most important departments of the Government of Canada, that they are both desirous of doing all a government can do to advance the interests of those who live on the land. The Minister of Agriculture, whose speech you have just heard, is a man in sympathy with, and enthusiastic on behalf of, the rural interests and population, and we can best uphold his hands, not by flattery or adulation, but by passing sincere and earnest judgment on the questions as they appear to us and submit these to his consideration, promising the fullest measure of support afterwards. I am sure I only express your thought when I say that this convention is grateful to the Prime Minister and the Minister of Agriculture for coming in this capacity to the general session to-night.

Professor Cumming.—On behalf of the fruit growers of this meeting, I take pleasure in moving a vote of thanks to the Right Honourable Mr. Borden, the Premier of Canada, and to the Hon. Mr. Burrell, Minister of Agriculture for the Dominion of Canada, and to our old friend, the chairman of the evening, Dr. Robertson, whose name is almost a household one from one end of Canada to the other, for the splendid addresses with which they have favoured us to-night. I take much pleasure indeed in moving this vote of thanks.

R. W. Shepherd.—I have much pleasure in seconding that motion. We have all listened with intense interest, and with a great deal of pleasure to three of the most delightful addresses that I have ever listened to in my experience. We are all interested in the subjects they have spoken of and I heartily second the motion.

(The motion was put to the meeting by Professor Cumming and carried by a standing vote accompanied by much applause.)

Sir James Grant:

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen.—As an old citizen, I wish to take this opportunity of congratulating you, Sir, on the great work which has been accomplished in Canada in this Agricultural department. In the first place the addresses delivered to-night by the Right Honourable Mr. Borden shows that he is up and doing and ready in every particular to advance the best interests of the Dominion of Canada, not alone in agriculture and horticulture, but in every other department connected with the best advancement and progress of this Dominion. We have also had an admirable address from the Honourable Mr. Burrell on the subject of agriculture which proves to us beyond doubt that he is the right man in the right place. (Applause.) He gave to us evidence of a practical knowledge of this great department which cannot fail to be of the utmost advantage to everyone connected with agricultural work.

My only regret is that one individual who wrote about Canada as being the 'Land of Snows,' Sir Rudyard Kipling, was not here to-night to look at that magnificent demonstration of fruit grown in Canada from ocean to ocean, which shows beyond doubt and in a very positive way, that we have a climate in this country congenial to our people, a climate which cannot fail, with proper guidance and direction, to give our people that degree of prosperity which they are achieving at the present moment. Canada is a country which cannot be surpassed in the civilized world in any way you look upon it, either with regard to resources of agriculture or in any other department connected with the advancement and prosperity of the people.

I am delighted beyond measure, Sir, to have seen this exhibit, and it gives me pleasure to say that few men in the Dominion of Canada have done more for its material development along agricultural lines than Dr. Robertson who occupies the chair to-night. (Applause.) He was instrumental in having established the Macdonald College at Ste. Anne de Bellevue where practical agriculture is taught to our people. Fifty years ago, the farmers were looked upon as men who were hewers of wood and drawers of water, but as a result of this educational work, they occupy the highest positions in our country. It is a most scientific occupation, and as honourable a calling as any in the Dominion of Canada, and I am proud to-night to see before me such a charming assemblage of men interested in the progress and advancement and prosperity of this country, and long may it continue.

In conclusion let me say that I trust you will long continue to follow out the cultivation of which we have evidence here this evening. I believe in what Mr. Burrell has told you that there is nothing like advertising. You cannot get along without it and I would strongly recommend you gentlemen who own that fruit to see that one apple is placed on the desk of every member of the House of Commons (Applause) as tangible proof that you wish their co-operation and their support and it will be an evidence of the growth and advancement of the apple trade in the Dominion of Canada. I wish you every degree of happiness and prosperity in carrying out the aim and object that you now have in view; the advancement of the material interests of our country. (Applause.)

Dr. ROBERTSON.—We appreciate your vote of thanks and the kind attention you have paid to the addresses of the evening.

Meeting adjourned.

FRIDAY, February 16, 1912.

Morning Session.

Commissioner J. A. RUDDICK in the chair.

Before calling the meeting to order for business, Mr. Ruddick, in referring to the death of Mrs. Jack, said as follows:

Before we open this meeting, it is my duty to announce that one of the delegates from Quebec, Mr. N. E. Jack, received a sad message last night, and was required to leave for home at once, on account of the death of his mother, Mrs. Annie L. Jack, a name well known and highly honoured among horticulturists. I am sure the delegates will all sympathize with Mr. Jack in his bereavement.

I will now ask the chairman of the programme committee to give us the programme for this morning's session.

Mr. Theodore Ross:

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen.—The programme committee had a great deal of difficulty in arranging the programme, because there were so many resolutions. I move, seconded by D. Johnson, that the programme for to-day be as follows:—

9 a.m.—Summary report by W. H. Bunting, followed by

Resolution 7.—The organization of the fruit branch.

" 8.—Regarding the formation of a national fruit growers' association.

" 6.—Assistance to co-operative societies.

" 5.—On transportation, &c.

" 4.—Crop and market reports.

The Chairman.—I do not think it is necessary that I should make any explanation as to the nature of Mr. Bunting's inquiry last summer. You are all aware of the work that he undertook on behalf of the department. Most of you have known him longer than I have, and I need not take up your time discussing the speaker or his subject.

SUMMARY REPORT OF SPECIAL INQUIRY INTO FRUIT GROWING INDUSTRY.

W. H. Bunting, St. Catharines.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen.—In the opening remarks in the afternoon session, the Honourable Minister of Agriculture made a statement that in a conference of this kind he considered discussions very much more in order and more useful than long addresses or papers on abstract subjects. I fully agree with the Honourable Minister in that respect, but I regret that in connection with my work, the nature of my trip has been of such a character that it has been extremely difficult for me to condense in short form the matter that I wish to present to you. Another difficulty that I experience is in the fact that I realize that to-day I am addressing not a popular audience exactly, but an audience of experts from the different provinces who know, as far as their own province is concerned, very much more about their own opportunities and possibilities than I can possibly hope to learn in a great many years. In that respect, I feel a great amount of diffidence in appearing before you this morning to outline what I have observed as some of the conditions throughout Canada and to express an opinion as to some of the possibilities that may be before us.

I desire in this paper to present a short summary of the present status of fruit growing in this country, to outline some of the conditions under which it is being carried on, and to call attention to the extent and importance of the industry in the several provinces, to some of the difficulties which have been encountered, as well as to the success which has attended efforts to combat and overcome many of these obstacles. In addition, an attempt has been made to emphasize the great possibilities awaiting intelligent, aggressive effort in enlarging the area now under cultivation and in raising to a higher standard the quality of the fruit already being produced, both as regards appearance and intrinsic merit.

I can only hope, however, in the time at my disposal, to call your attention briefly to some of those outstanding features of the situation which have impressed me most strongly during my recent trip of inquiry and investigation.

I trust that the more complete and detailed report of my itinerary for the past few months, which is in course of preparation and which will no doubt be placed in your hands as soon as published, may be of service in furnishing the general public who may be interested, additional information of a useful character on this important subject.

I have had an opportunity, by direction of the Hon. Minister of Agriculture, to visit during the last six months every province of the Dominion in order. In the course of this trip I have come into personal contact with a great many representative fruit growers in the different provinces, have visited them in their homes, have looked over their orchards, and have discussed with them many of the features of the industry as it is being carried on under varied conditions.

I wish at the outset to express appreciation for the cordial reception given me, and the interest displayed in my mission by these gentlemen. The officials of the various provincial departments of Agriculture, of the agricultural colleges and the experimental farms, as well as the members of the staff of the fruit division, have without exception taken every pains to make my trip pleasant and to facilitate the securing of such information as I sought. I am also deeply indebted to Mr. J. A. Ruddick, the Dairy and Cold Storage Commissioner, under whose direct supervision I have been working, for much valuable assistance, it being at his suggestion that the inquiry was instituted.

ONTARIO.

The province of Ontario, on account of its geographical position, its large areas of suitable land, and its general adaptability for fruit culture, is of course easily the most important province in the Dominion from the standpoint of the fruit industry, commercially and otherwise. The province comprises four out of the ten districts which have been outlined by Mr. McNeill, chief of the fruit division, for the purpose of defining fruit-growing conditions and production throughout the entire Dominion. These four districts, while differing in themselves and from each other, are all extremely important. Every one of them produces large quantities of fruit of a varied character. In addition to supplying an extensive local demand, these fruits must seek an outside market for the immense surplus grown annually.

A short discription of these districts may be in order, so that we may obtain a better idea of the province as a whole. Their location may be briefly described as follows:—

District 1.—Counties bordering on the north of Lake Erie from Niagara river, including western portion of Lake Ontario, to Detroit river and Lake and River St. Clair.

District 2.—Counties on Lake Huron inland to York, with the exception of parts of Wellington, Grey and Waterloo above the 1,000 foot contour line.

District 3.—Counties bordering on Lake Ontario, north to Sharbot Lake and Georgian Bay.

District 4.—St. Lawrence and Ottawa valleys to Lake St. Peter and a portion of southwestern Quebec.

These are simply arbitrary divisions and do not differentiate the localities as being entirely distinct from one another as a whole. In fact they merge imperceptably one into another at their boundaries, and can only be referred to as outlining in a modified way the general characteristics of the sections of country included.

District No. 1, in addition to large orchards of apples, pears and plums, contains the major portion of the commercial peach orchards and grape vineyards of the Dominion. It is also largely devoted to the production of cherries, both sweet and sour, small fruits of all kinds, and early vegetables, as well as supplying the greater portion

of the products required by the large number of canning factories stationed at strategic points from one end of the district to the other.

This district has been the scene of many changes during the past decade. The infestation of the San José scale at several important centres has led to the decline and destruction of many of the large apple orchards for which it was formerly noted. This condition has turned the attention of the people to the increased planting of such fruits are not so susceptible to injury from this cause or are more easily protected. In some cases, where conditions warranted, the production of early vegetables on a large scale has also been undertaken and has been followed up with splendid results.

Experience gained in the treatment of this once dreaded insect has, however, reached such a stage that its presence is now looked upon more as a salutary tonic than an unmixed evil, from the fact that it compels better and more careful methods of orchard treatment if a healthy existence is in any degree to be maintained. It having been clearly demonstrated that even large apple trees could be successfully protected against this enemy, and brought into splendid condition for the production of high class fruit, far-seeing orchardists at once began, with very gratifying results, an active campaign to care for those orchards which were not too severely injured, or in which a foothold had not as yet been obtained by the insect. Confidence has now been restored, a magnificent market is opening up, and the increased planting of apples as well as other fruits, is now going on apace in this district.

Advantage should be taken of the fact that fruit ripens considerably earlier throughout this territory than elsewhere, and prospective planters would be well advised if a considerable portion of their plantings were of the better sorts of the earlier varieties of apples, and of those fruits which will carry well for considerable distances. This would enable them to supply more fully the western prairie markets with the fruit required during the summer and fall months, a considerable portion of which is at present being imported from the United States. If the cold storage facilities, which are available on the ocean steamships, were fully utilized, an extensive trade could no doubt be also developed with the English market, in early, fancy, well-coloured fruit. This has already been demonstrated by the trial shipments of peaches and early apples which have been made during the past few years by the Dominion and Provincial Departments of Agriculture, as well as those of private individuals.

Notwithstanding that greatly increased plantings of peaches, pears, plums, cherries, grapes and small fruits have been going on throughout the district each year, the demand for this class of fruit has more than kept pace with the supply. In consequence prices have been advancing and all good fruit offered is being quickly purchased by eager customers. This situation has caused a very great activity in fruits lands in favoured locations, and it has become a question whether this feature is not being overdone at the present time, to the detriment of legitimate investment.

District No. 2 covers a large territory, whose residents are for the most part engaged in mixed farming, with an apple or plum orchard as subsidiary to the main activities of the farm. It is extremely gratifying to note, however, that as a result of the educative work that has been undertaken by the Provincial Department of Agriculture through its fruit branch, a very large number of men in this district have had their attention emphatically called to the great possibilities for profit that are lying dormant in a hitherto comparatively neglected portion of their farms. A widespread interest in now being taken in connection with the production of better fruit, by many of the people. Considering the extent of territory involved, this district offers splendid conditions for an almost unlimited supply of the best late-keeping varieties of winter apples, in addition to many varieties of other fruits.

District No. 3 contains the major portion of the extensive orchards of winter apples of standard varieties, and has done much to establish the reputation which Canadian apples enjoy in the export markets. In common with districts 1 and 2, an active campaign is in progress to improve the quality of the fruit now grown and to increase the orchard area.

Districts 2 and 3 are capable of becoming the most important producers on the American continent of high class, long-keeping winter apples. This opportunity, if fully taken advantage of, should result in such a condition of prosperity and contentment that instead of the rural population of Ontario showing a decrease from time to time a very marked increase should take place in exact ratio as the public becomes seized with the fact. It is generally admitted that fruit growing, properly conducted, provides for the profitable employment of a larger number of persons during a longer season, than almost any other phase of general agriculture.

In district No. 4, owing to the winter season being more severe and protracted, the standard varieties of winter apples, such as the Spy, Baldwin, Greening and King, do not succeed as a commercial proposition. Fortunately, however, there is a class of apples of the highest quality for which this district is noted. These varieties are in great demand, and from their hardy, vigorous nature grow to perfection and produce bountifully. This district is the home of the Famouse, Scarlet Pippin, McIntosh Red, St. Lawrence, Alexander, Wolf River and Wealthy. It is to be regretted that there is not at the present time the activity and enthusiasm that should be in evidence towards maintaining the prestige that the St. Lawrence and Ottawa Valleys and the south-western townships of Quebec have gained for the production of these splendid apples. Unusual circumstances have conspired to give many of the finest orchards in this district a serious setback from which they have not been able to entirely recover. New plantings are not being made with sufficient rapidity to replace these declining orchards and there is grave danger of a serious shortage in production in this part of Canada unless active measures are taken to correct the situation. A survey of some of the magnificent orchards that are still to be found and which are being handled under careful, approved methods, should be sufficient to inspire confidence in the younger men who have farms adapted for this purpose, and induce them to at once begin the planting of orchards to replace some of those which are passing away. There is perhaps no district in the Dominion today where an aggressive educational campaign is more necessary or desirable than in this particular territory.

In addition to the general and widespread interest that has been developed in better fruit-growing, the problem of more satisfactory methods of fruit-selling has been carefully considered by many of those in Ontario who are engaged in the distribution of the product. To accomplish this in a profitable and successful manner, various methods have been made use of, and some important agencies have been established in recent years. So long as the individual grower consigned his fruit in a haphazard way to the nearest market, regardless of its ability to absorb the supply, or to the first commission man who might solicit his shipments, without any knowledge of his standing or reliability, there was likely to be loss and disappointment. This lack of system is being rapidly replaced by more satisfactory methods of direct sale. For instance, the grower in many sections is disposing of his product at the shipping station for cash, to buyers who are handling quantities of fruit every day and are in close touch with the market. Or he may, by regular quotations, establish a trade with the retail merchants or consumers in more distant towns and cities. Better still he can, through the medium of strong co-operative societies of neighbouring fruit-growers, secure all the advantages of unity and systematic organization, keep well informed as to the present market and future prospects, obtain better and cheaper transportation and in many ways obviate a large percentage of the losses and vexations of the old way of selling. This could never be accomplished by the individual working alone, and independent of his neighbours.

In the districts already referred to, there are a number of sections in which fruit-growing has become an important specialty, and in which every means is being taken by the great majority of those engaged in the business, to secure the latest information and adopt the most modern methods to achieve success. Unfortunately this class does not at the present time constitute a majority of the fruit growers of Ontario—

possibly not more than twenty-five per cent of them. The other seventy-five per cent are scattered all over the province and have planted an orchard, or are engaged in growing fruit, as a secondary proposition, supplementary to general farming or some other line which is their principal occupation, and in consequence have neither time nor inclination to give their orchards proper care or attention. In sections of this character the 'lump' orchard buyer of the past has found a profitable field for operation. As the primary object was to buy as cheaply as possible, and having secured the crop to put out—I will not say pack—as many barrels as by hook or crook could be managed, there could only be one result. Many of the complaints of the inferior packing and grading of Ontario fruits during late years have arisen largely from this state of affairs, and from lack of proper appreciation of the care necessary to handle and transport fruit in good order, by those through whose hands it must pass on the way to market.

A strong public sentiment is now being created among the growers themselves which will not tolerate careless or indifferent or dishonest methods of packing and grading fruit for shipping purposes. This sentiment ought to do very much towards raising the standard of Ontario fruits, so that the claim frequently made that Ontario can produce the finest fruit grown on the continent may be amply justified.

In the Niagara peninsula, in the counties along the north shore of Lake Erie, in the districts bordering on Lake Huron, and also along the entire north shore of Lake Ontario there has been a very considerable activity during the past few years in the increased planting of all kinds of fruit. This has been occasioned largely by the recent discovery of the valuable qualities found in lime, sulphur and arsenate of lead combined in a general spray mixture for the practical control of the majority of insect pests and fungous diseases which affect fruit trees. Although the proven efficacy of this spray has but recently been established, it is rapidly taking its place as the most important discovery of late years in the progress of horticultural knowledge. The insistent demand for all the fruit which can be produced has also done much to awaken this activity and accentuate it, until at present it is taxing the facilities of the nurseries to supply this country with trees and plants of the standard fruits.

I have referred to the co-operative movement among the fruit-growers of Ontario. I believe the first organization of this kind in the province was that known as the Niagara Peninsula Fruit-growers' Stock Company, which was formed some twenty-five years ago by those veteran fruitgrowers Mr. A. H. Pettit and E. J. Wolverton and the late A. M. Smith, Murray Pettit and Dennis Van Duzer. The latter three although no longer with us, are honoured and remembered as pioneers of the earlier days.

This company was formed under a Dominion charter for the purpose of establishing reliable agencies to dispose of fruit to advantage, as well as to join in the assembling of carloads of fruit for shipment to the northwest and the maritime provinces. It maintained a useful existence for many years until it became superceded by local associations, in closer touch with the several districts covered.

The pioneer, however, of the present long list of co-operative associations in active operation may be said to be the St. Catharines Cold Storage and Forwarding Company. Organized in 1897, the outcome of a condition of affairs which was becoming intolerable, it has steadily grown in scope and importance until at the present time it is one of the largest, if not the largest and most successful company in the province handling fruits and produce in a co-operative way. The success of this company has led to the formation of many others modeled on the same or similar lines, in various parts of the province, the majority of which are securing excellent results. With careful, competent management and loyalty of the members to one another, these associations should be able to solve many of the problems of successful distribution.

A new feature of the association or company activity has been in evidence during the past season, the outcome of which is being watched with considerable interest.

This movement consists in the organization of companies, with more or less capital, for the purpose of purchasing, or leasing for a number of years, orchards in various parts of the country, it being the intention to care for these orchards in accordance with the most approved methods. Should these companies prove successful, the several orchards so handled should prove splendid object lessons to the surrounding country.

The Provincial Government has taken an active interest in horticulture in Ontario. A fruit branch has been formed, with Mr. P. W. Hodgetts as director, an experimental farm has been established in the tender fruit area, the gift to the province of M. F. Rittenhouse of Chicago, who, an old Niagara district boy, has not forgotten the place of his birth. Some good results are expected in the course of time from the work conducted on this farm. The Ontario Horticultural Exhibition has grown from very small dimensions a few years ago to one of the largest annual displays of apples on the continent, second only to the national apple show.

If those of us who are engaged in growing fruit in Ontario will rise to the dignity of the situation, and by every means in our power seek to put our product on the public market in such a manner as will remove every cause for complaint due to careless and indifferent packing and grading of what might otherwise be a high class product, there is a bright future in store for the fruit growers of the premier province in the Dominion.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

The Province of New Brunswick and the northeastern portion of Quebec is included in District No. 5. I looked forward with a great deal of interest to a visit to New Brunswick, as I had heard so much of the St. John Valley and the opportunities for fruit growing which were just beginning to be realized by the residents of this beautiful district.

Fruit has been grown for a good many years in considerable quantities in the counties included along the valley of the St. John River and in portions of Charlotte, Albert and Westmorland. Many fine orchards attest the capabilities of this province to produce fruit of splendid colour and quality. The late Francis P. Sharp was probably one of the first to undertake the growing of fruit in anything like a commercial way in this province. He was an enthusiastic, enterprising investigator, and with wonderful optimism undertook many years ago to secure, develop and plant fruit on a large scale in Carleton county. The result of his work is still to be seen in the vicinity of Woodstock. It is only within recent years, however, that definite data have been secured and made available to the general public, as to the varieties of fruit which may be planted commercially with every confidence and hope of profit. The Provincial Government, through the Secretary of Agriculture, Mr. W. W. Hubbard, and the Provincial Horticulturist, Mr. A. G. Turney, both of them active and enthusiastic men, has put new life into the New Brunswick fruit industry, and this province is now taking active steps to fill its proper place as an important fruit-producing section.

No finer strawberries, raspberries or other small fruits are grown anywhere in the Dominion. The list of apples recommended for New Brunswick covers the season and provides a class well suited for export shipment, as well as for supplying the local markets. With cheap and rapid transportation by water, with an over-seas market very close at hand, with plenty of suitable land at a very moderate cost, with the knowledge that has been secured as to the proper varieties, and with the active co-operation of the government, the success of New Brunswick as a fruit-growing area seems assured.

NOVA SCOTIA.

Districts 6 and 7 are included in the province of Nova Scotia. District No. 6 comprises the counties of Hants, Kings, Annapolis and Digby, extending from Windsor

on the east to Digby on the west, an area about 100 miles in length and 5 to 15 miles in breadth, popularly known as the Annapolis valley. This territory, on account of its peculiar and favourable location along the south shore of the Bay of Fundy, is extremely suitable for the production of many of the standard apples and other fruits, and as an additional advantage it is adequately protected from winds and ocean fogs by a range of hills on either side, known as the north and south mountains.

In some parts of this district the cultivation of the apple began very early, and magnificent trees which have passed the century mark are still to be found producing crops of fruit. As the success of apple culture became assured, the people began to increase their orchard planting rapidly, until at present, considering the territory involved, no portion of the Dominion has larger or more important orchards within a given radius.

In the vicinity of Waterville, Berwick and in other parts of this valley there are large areas of virgin soil that can be obtained at very low cost. While a considerable portion of this land is covered with a second growth of birch, alder, spruce and other small trees, it can be quite easily cleared and profitably utilized for fruit-growing, as an inspection of the fine orchards in the immediate neighbourhood will clearly demonstrate.

It has been estimated by experienced men that not more than ten per cent of the available fruit land in this entire valley is being utilized for that purpose. The balance, outside of the dyke lands and an occasional improved farm devoted to mixed farming, lies fallow and waiting the advent of those who will develop it and repeat the successes of those who have done the pioneer work.

A splendid field lies open in these cheap lands, which may be purchased from ten dollars per acre upwards, depending upon the location. It is somewhat amazing that for years these opportunities have remained unimproved while thousands of settlers have passed on towards a more distant and alluring goal. It is also to be regretted that many of the younger generation, drawn by the attraction of city life, or the stories of great wealth to be obtained so easily elsewhere, have abandoned a sure means of obtaining a comfortable livelihood in this beautiful valley, for an uncertainty and, in many cases, a disappointment. Many other fruits besides the apple do well throughout this valley. Bountiful crops of pears, plums, cherries and small fruits are produced in many places, and as there is a very good market for all of these, their production might very profitably be extended.

District No. 7 comprises the remaining portion of the province, and includes many sections where fruit is being produced with more or less success. In the neighbourhood of Bridgewater some very good orchards were observed, and along the southern shore there are many thousand acres of blueberries, while cranberries are also being cultivated with considerable success.

Near the town of Truro and in portions of Pictou county the hardier fruits, if given care and protection from severe winds, should succeed fairly well. Further work should be undertaken to more fully demonstrate the range of fruits likely to prove suitable for this and similar areas.

An important feature, peculiar to the Nova Scotia fruit belt, is the large number of apple storage warehouses situated at every shipping station throughout the Annapolis valley. Over eighty of these have been erected with a capacity of from 2,000 to 10,000 barrels each. The fruit is usually handled direct into barrels in the orchard and rushed to these warehouses where it is repacked during the fall and winter seasons and shipped out whenever a favourable opportunity offers.

Owing to comparative nearness to the British markets, the great bulk of the surplus fruit is exported. The past season, however, has been a record one, both for volume of the crop and quality of the fruit, and has seen the western markets invaded for the first time. Nova Scotia Gravensteins and other varieties found their way not only to Winnipeg and the large prairie towns and cities, but even as far west as Revelstoke and Kamloops in British Columbia.

On account of the lack of regular and frequent sailings of ocean steamships from Halifax, the transportation question during the early fall months is a serious one, and if possible some remedy should be found. This condition does not apply to the shipping facilities during the winter, when the sailings are regular and frequent. It is during this period that the great bulk of the crop is marketed, and it is therefore desirable that the planting of only the best varieties of winter fruit be encouraged.

While many Nova Scotia growers are specialists and are handling their orchards in a careful, systematic manner, a more widespread campaign for the adoption of the best methods of orchard practice would greatly enhance the quality of the product and the profit to be derived therefrom.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

Prince Edward Island comprises district No. 8. On this beautiful island there are a few wide-awake fruit growers, of which Mr. A. E. Dewar, of Charlottetown, Frank Bowyer, of Bunbury, and John Annear, of Lower Montague, may be considered types. These men and a few others who might be mentioned, have orchards of apples and plantations of small fruits of considerable importance. Their success proves conclusively that if the people of this district were thoroughly aroused to the splendid opportunity before them, then the increased planting of fruit would be undertaken with energy and vigour.

Complaints are made by many who have orchards that there is a lack of buyers and means of despatch for the crops already produced. It is claimed that it is useless to spend time and attention on a crop that cannot readily be turned into money. The people as a whole have not as yet become fully impressed with the fact that by a comprehensive scheme of co-operative effort, and by careful attention to the details necessary for the production of fancy fruit, they would find their product in the very greatest demand at profitable prices, and their energies would be taxed to supply it.

Small fruits of all kinds succeed admirably here, particularly strawberries, and their increased cultivation might be safely encouraged. Very active and earnest efforts to improve the situation and to awaken an enthusiasm among the people have been made by Mr. Theodore Ross, Secretary of Agriculture, Mr. A. E. Dewar, President of the Provincial F. G. A., and Mr. Clark, Superintendent of the Experimental Farm, and it is to be hoped that their efforts will be crowned with success. A trained specialist who could devote his entire time as a field horticulturist among the people on their farms would be able to do a great deal of useful and profitable work in this province.

MANITOBA.

It is a far cry from Prince Edward Island to British Columbia, in which province we find districts 9 and 10. On our way westward we will look for a moment at the experimental work that has been carried on at Dunston in southern Manitoba, by Mr. A. P. Stevenson, another of those unselfish and indomitable pioneers in the Canadian fruit industry. Settling here in 1874 Mr. Stevenson at once began his career as a fruit grower under very adverse conditions. Frequent and continued failures did not deter him from the object in view. He struggled on and after disappointments which would have caused many men to give up in despair, he has succeeded in establishing an orchard of hardy apples, and in bringing together a collection of other fruits which would do great credit to more congenial surroundings. During the past season Mr. Stevenson has had over sixty barrels of very fine apples of various kinds from his orchard, in addition to considerable quantities of plums, cherries and small fruits. He is establishing a nursery in which he proposes to propagate stock of the various fruits which, from his experience, he considers most desirable for the prairie districts and he has already distributed to his neighbours and

others trees and shrubs which are succeeding very well in numerous places. From a careful observation of this section and from diligent inquiries made, there seems no reason why Mr. Stevenson's success might not be repeated many times over in the northwest by men who would undertake it with intelligence and energy.

Dr. William Saunders, while director of the experimental farms, took a deep interest in the investigation of hardy fruits that might withstand the severity of the northwest winters. In the course of his work there have been produced a large number of varieties of apples which have had for their parentage the wild Siberian crab —Pyrus baccata—crossed with some of the hardiest and best sorts grown in Ontario. This work has proved very promising and is now being continued with a large number of second crosses, under the direction of Mr. W. T. Macoun, Dominion horticulturist. A great many of these trees have been sent out to the experimental farms at Brandon, Indian Head, Lethbridge, and other stations, and have also been placed in the hands of many individual farmers for further testing. Considerable success has been achieved and it is expected that some at least of these hybrids may prove valuable and worthy of extended production.

Small fruits of various kinds grow wild in abundance in many parts of the prairies, and in some cases considerable progress has been made in their cultivation, especially strawberries. This applies particularly to the vicinity of Edmonton where some good results have been obtained. There is a wide field open for experimental work in connection with these fruits in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, which will no doubt be undertaken as the country becomes more densely populated.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Conditions are varied in British Columbia and are very different to those which obtain in Ontario and the eastern provinces, complying more nearly with such as are to be found south of the line in Washington, Oregon and Idaho, states which have gained a wonderful reputation during the past few years for the production of enormous quantities of fancy, high-coloured apples, as well as other fruits.

District No. 9 comprises what is known as the Lower Mainland and the Islands of the coast, of which Vancouver Island is much the largest and most important. This area is characterized by a mild climate for the most part, with a very considerable humidity and great precipitation during certain seasons of the year, the total rainfall at Vancouver averaging about 70 inches annually. For this reason and on account of the great fertility of the soil, small fruits do exceptionally well all through this territory. For the same reason the range of tree fruits is somewhat limited, and the varieties chosen for planting must be selected with care in order to be successful with them. Several varieties of apples, pears, plums and cherries do very well, more particularly the earlier kinds of apples and those stone fruits not susceptible to brown rot. Some very fine orchards are to be found in this district, that of Mr. T. A. Brydon near the city of Victoria being a good example of what can be accomplished under proper care and management.

Strawberries, raspberries and other small fruits luxuriate in many parts of the district, and have been planted largely in different localities. The section on the main line of the Canadan Pacific Railway from Mission to the coast, and the territory in the southern portion of Vancouver Island are at present the most largely developed and important. An excellent market is available, both locally and in the prairie towns and cities, and is not by any means adequately supplied. There is plenty of suitable land available for planting. One of the chief hindrances to a rapid extension of the small fruit industry is the difficulty of securing sufficient help, especially during the picking season. This might be remedied to a large extent by adopting the methods in vogue in the States to the south where cheap summer cottages are provided for families who are brought from the cities and taken care of on the farms during the busy season

District No. 10 includes the various inland valleys of the province and contains large areas of land where irrigation is necessary to secure profitable crops. There are also several important sections where the rain and snowfall are quite sufficient to furnish all the moisture required.

A very remarkable movement has been undertaken during recent years in connection with the development of the semi-arid or dry areas. Encouraged by the success which has attended similar enterprises in the states to the south, and the results obtained from the orchards planted by the early settlers where a supply of water was easily available, public attention was drawn to the establishment of irrigation projects in many parts of these valleys. At the present time many thousands of acres have been brought under these systems and are being rapidly changed from comparatively barren areas of little or no value to magnificent orchards of fruit, and farms where large quantities of vegetables and other crops are being profitably produced.

Many of these irrigation systems are being constructed and extended in a most permanent and substantial manner by the more general use of concrete ditches and pipes, with steel flumes where necessary, instead of the ordinary open ditch and wooden flumes which, while answering the purpose, allow considerable waste of water and require frequent repair. It will not be possible to go into detail with regard to this feature of the development of British Columbia fruit growing, and I can only mention as a type of these systems the one under the control of the Coldstream Estates Company at Vernon, known as the White Valley Irrigation and Power Company, which is perhaps the most extensive and important of the large number established in the Okanagan valley, if not in the entire west. In this vicinity are also to be found the celebrated orchards of the Coldstream Estate Co., containing 548 acres of fruit trees in various stages of growth, planted by the company as a commercial undertaking, with 300 additional acres planted for clients. A number of the orchards on this property have been producing crops of fruit for some years and very large profits have been derived from them.

There are many important centres throughout these valleys under systems of irrigation, chief of which might be mentioned Kamloops and Walhachin on the main line, Vernon, Kelowna, Summerland and Penticton in the Okanagan Lake district, and Grand Forks in the Kettle River valley, in addition to numerous localities such as Salmon Arm, Armstrong, Nelson, The Needles, Nakusp and many others where irrigation is not essential. In all these valleys many hundreds of acres have already been planted to the tree fruits. There are still thousands more awaiting the coming of the settler to take advantage of the opportunities which are at present lying dormant in this western province.

Some criticism has been made at times in regard to the dessert qualities of British Columbia apples; I believe, however, that this province, in public competition not only with the states to the south but with the older fruit districts of the east, has demonstrated that it can produce fruit which cannot be excelled for size, colour, freedom from blemishes and, in the case of many varieties, for dessert qualities.

The country is new, many problems are unsolved, and in some cases the great opportunities of the west have been manipulated by the unscrupulous land-jobber, but all honour I say to the men who, with strong conviction and great courage, have undertaken the work of making the fruit industry the most important agricultural feature of this province of wonderful resources. They will be able to profit by the experience of the older provinces and avoid many of the mistakes made in the earlier days when horticultural knowledge was much more meagre than it is to-day. They have the success of the states to the south as an incentive to stir them up to good works and there is every indication that in a few years British Columbia apples will be favourably known in every fruit-consuming country on the globe.

TRANSPORTATION.

The proper distribution throughout Canada of the increasing supplies of fruit will necessitate a close study of transportation facilities. In this respect there is room for great improvement. The officials of our larger railway companies are becoming more and more interested in the fruit trade; they realize that it is an important addition to the volume of traffic, but are not yet sufficiently impressed with the claims of the fruit grower for better equipment, service and despatch. In many cases very unsuitable cars are supplied; unusual delays in transit are frequently experienced; serious losses occur which are very difficult to adjust; rates of carriage are in many cases excessive and absorb too much of the ultimate value of the product. Some relief has been obtained, but much remains to be done before this feature of the Canadian fruit industry is put on a satisfactory basis. The great northwest country will be able to consume, at a profit to the producer, all the fruit that can be grown for many years to come, provided it can be landed from the east and from the west in good condition and at a reasonable cost.

This conference will render the very best service to the fruit industry at large, if ways and means can be devised to secure improvement of these conditions, both with regard to the freight and express service. I take the liberty of suggesting to this conference the advisability of selecting a joint committee of say three men, one from British Columbia, one from Ontario, and one representing the maritime provinces, whose duty would be to secure facts and information relative to market conditions, both as to supply and demand throughout the Dominion, and give publicity to such information. This committee would also be able to treat with railway companies and other organizations, having regard to the welfare, not only of any particular section or province, but of the fruit industry of Canada as a whole.

THE UNITED STATES.

It was my privilege to visit one or two important sections of the United States during my trip. The one thing that impressed me most strongly amongst our cousins to the south was the strong emphasis placed on the question of quality by those who were most successful. Every possible method that will secure quality, finish and beauty of appearance in the product, is being sought by many of these men and adopted. The result is apparent in the high prices which are now being obtained for Hood River, Wenatchee and Yakima apples, and the reputation which many New York State leaders have established in the principal and most discriminating markets of the east.

While in the older fruit sections of the Dominion insect pests and fungous diseases have obtained a strong foothold and have caused great loss and damage, such progress has been made in the discovery of remedies and methods of control that in the majority of cases the alert fruit grower need not fear disaster from these causes. Climatic conditions may on occasion threaten his very existence. They should serve to awaken greater perseverance and determination. The disappointments that occur at times should develop resourcefulnes in overcoming difficulties, and promote a strength of character worthy of admiration.

It has been demonstrated over and over again, in every province of the Dominion, that while there is a very large surplus of indifferent fruit produced and offered to the public, the market never has been, and will not for years to come, be fully supplied with fruit that can be called strictly fancy. Altogether apart from the satisfaction derived from handling a first-class article, permanent pecuniary success depends upon a proper appreciation of this fact.

In closing let me say that if I can leave with the Canadian fruit grower a more thorough realization of the value and importance, not only to himself but to the

country at large, of leaving no stone unturned and sparing no effort to secure the very highest quality and establish the very highest standard in every detail of his business then I may hope that the time and effort spent in making this investigation will result in giving some little impetus to the fruit growing industry of Canada.

I would like to ask the delegates here to-day whether it would be possible to go into any city in Canada and buy fifty boxes of apples such as we see on the platforms. I would also like to ask if there is any reason why our cities and towns should not be supplied with fruit approaching the character we have here and in this respect I am reminded of a little story which seems to be quite opportune. A boy had been presented with a trio of bantams and when the birds began to lay, he was very much dissatisfied with the product and after considering the situation, he hit upon this expedient: He secured a very large goose egg and hung it up in the hen house and underneath it he inscribed this motto: 'Keep your eye on this and do the best you can.' (Laughter). You have placed here a very high standard for us as fruit growers and we will keep our eye on it as we go to our homes and endeavour to do the best we can. (Applause.)

The CHAIRMAN.—I am sure you have all listened with very much interest to Mr. Bunting's valuable paper. The programme committee has asked that there shall be no discussion on it at this stage. I would remind the Resolution Committee of the suggestion made by Mr. Bunting on the appointment of a Transportation Committee.

ORGANIZATION OF THE FRUIT DIVISION.

The next order of business is item 7, entitled the Organization of the Fruit Division, and the Ontario delegates were instructed to support the following resolution:

'That the Directors of the Fruit Growers' Association of Ontario would suggest to the Honourable the Minister of Agriculture for the Dominion that the fruit interests of Canada are now of sufficient importance to warrant the placing of the Fruit Division of the Dominion Department of Agriculture on the same basis as that of the Seed and Dairy Branches, with a Commissioner appointed in charge.'

I have just one word to say with regard to that resolution. It does not state the facts correctly. The Dairy Branch, so called, comprises several divisions, the Dairy Division, Fruit Division, Markets Division and the Cold Storage Division. The four divisions occupy exactly the same relation to each other. There is no Dairy Branch, but there is a Dairy Division.

(Moved by Mr. Thompson and seconded that Resolution No. 7 be laid over until after the next order of business has been disposed of. Carried.)

A NATIONAL FRUIT GROWERS' ASSOCIATION.

The CHAIRMAN.—The next order is a resolution which was not handed in previous to the gathering of the conference: 'Moved by P. W. Hodgetts and seconded by R. M. Winslow, that in the opinion of the delegates at the meeting now assembled, they should before adjournment organize into a National Fruit Growers' Association on the same lines as the National Live Stock Association which has been in session in Ottawa this week.

HONOURABLE MR. BURRELL IN THE CHAIR.

Mr. HODGETTS.—This should not be a matter of great contention. It is more for the future than for the present and it will not affect this conference. The feeling at present is that there is no continuity at all between the gathering of the fruit growers

from the various provinces. There are matters such as forming a transportation committee and other matters in connection with the tariff that should have a representative body to look after them and the suggestion is that we organize ourselves into a Canadian National Fruit Growers Association. We would suggest that the secretaries of the Provincial Associations should form into a committee immediately with authority to get together and draft a provisional constitution and have the same ready to submit to the meeting this afternoon.

The constitution of the Dominion Live Stock Association is a very good one. (Constitution read.) The object of this association, if formed, will not be to call together meetings such as this at regular intervals. There might be matters of sufficient importance to call a meeting together; that would be left with the executive, but at the same time other matters that come up continually could be taken up by the committee.

R. M. Winslow.—The general objects of the plan formulated by Mr. Hodgetts were made with the approval of the fruit growers assembled. The fact that the Dominion Department of Agriculture deals with the fruit industry indicates that it is a Dominion asset and the fact that we have a Fruit Growers' Conference also indicates that it is a national industry and under these circumstances, a National Association is not at all out of place, and one would expect it to be a natural outcome of such a conference as this. The working out of the details would be matters that would require much thought.

The Chairman.—You may consider this motion and bring in some kind of report this afternoon and then the conference will have something more definite to work on before they approve of the plan.

(Moved by Mr. Hodgetts and seconded by Mr. Winslow that the secretary of each provincial association meet to consider the matter at once. Carried.)

Owing to the fact that the secretary of the Quebec Association and the secretary of the Prince Edward Island Association were not present, the presidents of these associations were appointed in their places.)

ASSISTANCE TO CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES.

The Chairman.—The next question is No. 6, Assistance to Co-operative Societies. Quebec proposes the following resolution: 'That in the opinion of this society the government should take steps to assist co-operative societies through making it possible for them to secure loans at reasonable rates for purchase of supplies, &c., along lines similar to that given to Danish and German co-operative societies.'

Mr. Chas. T. Byers.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen.—In supporting this resolution, it is not our intention to lay before the conference any concrete plan whereby assistance should be given to co-operative societies. In Quebec we operate under a charter known as 'The Agricultural Co-operative Fruit Growers' Society.' It is a limited company. If the Dominion government had a commission that would investigate the securities offered by the local societies, money might be had on reasonable terms that would not be subject to short calls. I think it would be well to have a discussion of this matter by men who have had experience in co-operative societies and a plan might be formulated that would meet with approval. We might take advantage of some central organization that could be approached and that would investigate our standing. We feel that co-operative societies are something that would be of very great advantage to the community in the handling and purchasing of supplies.

Mr. L. A. Hamilton.—Could the mover give us some information with regard to the nature of the financial assistance?

Mr. Byers.—I was unable to get the necessary information until yesterday when I was handed a bulletin or report which shows the work. Mr Brodie and I had the report but it was left on a chair and has disappeared.

As I understand it, they have a central organization. It is a rural bank that investigates the securities offered by local co-operative societies and this rural bank is backed by the government, and if they see that the security offered by the local society is all right, then they will advance a certain proportion of money—I think it is about 40 per cent.

Last year we organized co-operative societies for the purpose of carrying on demonstration orchard work. The Quebec government gave a grant of $800. We have twenty-five members each subscribing for ten shares of stock and this stock is paid in annual payments of $1 a share. The sum of money realized in this way was only $250. The demonstration work has stimulated the growers to carry on practices that are beneficial. We want to erect a cold storage plant and we simply do not know how to go about financing it. Personally we cannot go to the bank nor can we get capital in the country on terms that would meet with our conditions.

Mr. Hamilton.—I understand there is a motion on the table respecting co-operative associations and this motion might be brought up with the other.

The Chairman.—No such resolution has been handed to me.

Mr. Armstrong.—As far as I can remember the idea is that the government be requested to assist the central co-operative association. If the co-operative associations in Canada wish to sell their fruit through co-operative associations in England, they find themselves debarred from doing so.

Mr. Snetzinger.—They want the government to back them up. You will find that next year there won't be so many of these associations, because they are going to be ruined by apples going bad. Men who came out from Scotland and put their money into the hands of unscrupulous buyers have lost thousands and tens of thousands of dollars.

The Chairman.—We are not discussing that question just now. You must stick to the co-operative motion.

Mr. Snetzinger.—That is what I am talking about. These societies buy the fruit from the farmers.

The Chairman.—The question before the conference is that some steps should be taken to provide means for assisting the co-operative societies.

Mr. Snetzinger.—Like they had for the Farmers' Bank. I think the government had better look out for themselves.

The Hon. Mr. Burrell.—You are again touching a tremendous subject. The co-operation amongst individual associations for the betterment of their own interest, the government has nothing to do with except in so far as you may require government help and assistance. The question raised by my friend down here of co-operative credit societies in Denmark and other parts of Europe is one that would have to be gone into with a great deal of care because it involves a departure in legislation as far as Canada is concerned. We may come around to it. There is a great deal to be said for it but it would take a long time to argue that question out. It would be the undertaking of legislation of a new kind in the Dominion parliament and I do not think that phase of it could be taken up at a conference of this kind intelligently in the time at our disposal.

I might say with regard to this whole question of co-operation, that I have introduced a Bill in the House of Commons and the government is taking this matter into consideration, the question of co-operation with the provinces, and that covers to some extent the point alluded to. We hope before another year to get sufficient information so as to know on what lines the various provinces wish to move with the idea of co-operating with them, as the Honourable Mr. Borden said last night in a very real way, with the idea of supplementing each other's efforts and working out a scheme which will help along the very lines to which this gentleman referred.

Mr. HAMILTON.—I would suggest that if this National Fruit Association is organized, this question might be left over and the executive committee might deal with it.

Professor SAXBY BLAIR.—We feel there is a possibility of doing something to assist the farmer in the rural section who has not sufficient money to put his farm on a proper paying basis and we thought it wise to bring this matter up. We have no objection to it being dropped if it is left in the hands of such an association as has been suggested.

The CHAIRMAN.—The Resolution Committee will take such action as they see fit with regard to this question. We will now take up question No. 7.

THE ORGANIZATION OF THE FRUIT DIVISION.

Mr. JOHNSON:

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen.—In support of this resolution, I wish to say that there seems to be a unanimous cry throughout the whole Dominion of Canada that the Fruit Division should be placed under the control of an independent commissioner. We have no complaint to make against the present commissioner; he has been unwearied in his efforts to promote the fruit industry, but we feel that the time has come when there should be an independent fruit commissioner who would have absolute control of that department. At the present time, the fruit division is secondary to the Dairy Division, and, I would ask those who have charge of the department, how the dairymen would feel if their department was placed under the control of the fruit division? There is nothing personal in this motion. The fruit industry of Canada has grown tremendously. There is no department of agriculture which is attracting so much attention as fruit growing and in order to promote that industry as much as we possibly can, we should have an independent commissioner. I move that this association adopt the resolution of the Ontario Fruit Growers' Association. Surely the fruit industry is as important as the seed industry!

A. W. PEART.—I consider this question is somewhat of a delicate one for the reason that it is in a sense a departmental question. From what we heard on the platform last night, both from the Premier of Canada and the Minister of Agriculture, I think this whole matter will be dealt with by the present government because it is going to do its utmost to promote the best interests of all branches of agriculture and for that reason, I feel this is rather a delicate matter to deal with because it is along purely departmental lines. Changes are continually going on in Canada. This country is progressing by leaps and bounds and in order to meet the changing conditions, it is necessary to have special divisions for the different work. We all know the changes that have taken place in the last ten years. Ten years ago, the Prairie provinces were territories. The time came when, in the developmnt of that country, it was found necessary to carve two provinces out of the territories, Alberta and Saskatchewan. The idea of this motion is that the fruit interests of this Dominion have

developed to that extent that it should be raised to the status of some of the other great branches of industry of this country.

Statistics were quoted yesterday as to the development and growth of the fruit industry of the Dominion. There is some difference of opinion as to the capital invested but I think it may be safely and reasonably stated that there are from $125,000,000 to $150,000,000 invested in the fruit industry of this country and that is a large capital investment. Mr. Bunting in his address this morning, stated that in the province of Ontario and several other provinces, not one-tenth of the available acreage for the growing of fruit is at present under cultivation and that shows the immense potentialities of the fruit industry of this country. There are important problems coming up all the time. Transportation at the present time, with all sorts of products, is not what it should be and I fancy that would come more particularly under the supervision of the head of the fruit industry. Then as time goes on, we want to open out new markets and that is a big question. During the past year, from our district, we sent apples to South Africa, and the different fruit districts of this country will attempt to open out new markets in different parts of the world and in order to do that, we want the assistance of a central organization. The cold storage problem has great possibilities for the future. We, as fruit growers, feel that the time has come when the fruit industry of this country should be raised to full citizenship and it should be given a head of its own. We would like the government to give this matter their very best and most careful consideration.

Mr. ONSLOW.—We go into this business to make money out of it. If we had somebody at the head of affairs to whom we could go personally and who would look after our interests and would have no other interest at stake to occupy his time, it would mean a wonderful amount of money to us. It is not the amount of money we have made in the last few years, but it is the amount that we might have made.

Mr. R. J. MESSENGER.—The matter has not been discussed in Nova Scotia, but I think I am voicing the feelings of the members here to-day when I say we are fully in sympathy with that motion. I would like to suggest that the Minister of Agriculture would say something on that subject.

Hon. Mr. BURRELL.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen.—This question has been referred to as a departmental question and therefore a delicate question. I am glad to hear free discussion of it because it is always helpful. There is not the slightest intention on your part to be critical of the administration as it has been conducted in the past.

There are one or two points I would like to mention. Mr. Onslow referred to the fact that it would be a great deal of help if you were able to go to the head of a fruit division. I would point out in that connection, and I think we must admit as fruit growers, that there has been a lot of very valuable work done in the Department of Agriculture, specifically relating to fruit, and you have had free access to go to Mr. McNeill who is chief of the fruit division, or to Mr. Ruddick who is head of the branch and has to do with some phases of the commercial aspect of fruit growing perhaps more particularly than Mr. McNeill, but you have free access to any of these officials and you can get the fullest information and can place your views for help before them. I think there is some little confusion as to the fruit division being inferior or subsidiary to the dairy division. It is not a dairy branch under which fruit occupies an inferior place. There is a dairy division and there is a fruit division, a cold storage division and a markets division. A lot of the work under Mr. Ruddick's charge is co-related and in some instances these different divisions overlap and touch each other. I shall ask Mr. Ruddick to refer to one or two of these phases. There is one man dealing with the question of the extension of the markets

and he takes up the extension of the markets for fruit and the question of transportation and cold storage at the same time. I would like my fruit growing friends to feel that these things are looked after. They are all involved with each other and I would not like you to think that there is, in any sense, in the government's mind, certainly not in my mind, any feeling that the fruit interests are placed in a subsidiary or inferior position to any of the others because it is absolutely not so.

I was glad to hear our friend, Mr. Peart, speak about the wish of the government to see that all phases of agricultural life are taken care of in an aggressive way. I can assure him and assure you that that is the intention of the government. I am not in a position to say whether the government will undertake to carry out what may be your final wishes on this particular matter. I would like to point out that there is not, at the present time, an intention in the mind of the government, and certainly not in my mind, to have a general scheme of re-organization. I may say here—because this is not in a sense a political question at all—that in Canada we have been making, during the last fifteen or twenty years, enormous strides and very few of us recognize what enormous ramifications are going on to-day because of the growth of the whole country. One cannot possibly realize the tremendous growth there has been until he comes into this central system here at Ottawa and comprehends the multiplicity of affairs and the great expansion especially during the last ten or fifteen years. With that immense expansion, the system which was applicable fifteen years ago, is not entirely efficacious to meet the needs of the present day. You are feeling it with regard to fruit. We are feeling it with regard to the whole Department of Agriculture. We feel it with regard to other departments of the government and I think you are aware that there was a commission appointed this year especially for this purpose. It is true it is appointed with other ends in view, that if there is anything wrong these wrongs are to be rectified. It was also placed there for the purpose of looking into the great departments of government with the view of re-organizing them in such a way, defining the particular status of this or that official, that it would make for the efficiency of the whole departmental organization throughout the government. I may say that the commission has already taken steps to secure a lot of data from my own department and from the various other departments. A little time ago, we submitted a large comprehensive sketch of our department, showing the different central offices and the work of the different branches and subdivisions throughout the whole department—what connection they had with each other and the central system. We found all sorts of complications and it was necessary to get some clear and definite idea of what the remedy should be and ought to be and what changes there might be with the idea of making purely an agricultural department.

I am very glad to have this question brought up. I have a great deal of sympathy with the remarks made by the gentlemen who have spoken. I cannot make any definite promises as to carrying out a suggestion of this kind now and if I do not you will understand that any delay in taking action would simply mean a delay with the idea that we should get the fullest information and that changes of this kind that are made will be made in conjunction with other changes which will make for the general efficiency of the Department of Agriculture. You can rest assured that the fruit interests will not be relegated to an inferior position, but everything will be done within the bounds of reason to see that it has its rightful place. (Applause.)

Mr. TAPPAN ADNEY, N.B.—One must feel that it would be very difficult indeed to separate these various functions. For instance, cold storage could not be put into a department by itself and although our friend over here has said we are here to make money, yet I think sentiment comes into these matters and there is a feeling, and just feeling, that there is something absurd in the name of a fruit division being part of the dairy and cold storage division. As far as names go, that is absurd and

I think if the fruit division could be put under some proper wording, it would be better; to have it under the dairy division is perfectly absurd.

The Hon. Mr. Bowell.—I am going to ask Mr. Ruddick to say a word on this question. You all know he has been thoroughly efficient and I have had reason to know the efficiency of his services for a good many years. (Applause.)

Commissioner Ruddick.

Hon. Mr. Bowell and Gentlemen.—In some respects I feel in rather a peculiar position in attempting to speak of this question. However, I know very well, from what I have heard from the fruit growers that there is nothing personal in the question and that it is simply a matter of organization. I may say first that when the re-organization of the branch took place in 1905 and I became the head of it, I did not ask to have the fruit work left with me. It would not make any difference to me, as far as my work is concerned, if it were separated, because I could find plenty of scope for my energies and abilities, and ambitions if you like, in connection with the other divisions. There is no trouble in finding work in connection with the Department of Agriculture. My associations with the fruit men have been very pleasant and I have enjoyed the work, yet I can find plenty of work in other directions and I am not worrying about that part of it. Now I would say that if any of the interests represented by the different divisions of my branch have any right to complain, it is the dairymen and I will tell you why: At one time it was in reality a dairy branch and dairying was the whole of its work and a dairy commissioner was at the head of it. At the time of re-organization, the dairy branch was reduced to a status of a division and placed on a par with cold storage, extension of markets and the fruit divisions. These four divisions are all exactly on the same footing. The difficulty comes in, and I recognize it and have felt it all along, in finding a title for the officer at the head of the branch. I feel the awkwardness of it when meeting fruit growers and being introduced as the dairy and cold storage commissioner. It has been suggested that my title should be dairy commissioner, fruit commissioner and cold storage commissioner, three offices in one. But there is a difficulty in having a fruit commissioner, because the real horticultural work is under the Dominion horticulturist. A fruit commissioner would have to deal with all the fruit work of the department. The dairy work of the department is entirely under the dairy division; there is no other dairy work, except the work of the experimental farm, and that is confined to the experimental farm. It is different with fruit. I am not chief of the dairy division. The chief of the dairy division is Mr. George H. Barr. The extension of markets division is in charge of Mr. W. W. Moore, and these officers with Mr. A. McNeill, all stand in the same relation to me as to the head of the branch. I am not opposing the resolution which is being brought up, nor do I wish to be understood as making an appeal on my own behalf. I merely wish to place the issue squarely before you. I think it is just as well to speak frankly and freely, because I have not the slightest feeling in the matter and know that there is not any on your part. (Applause.)

Mr. Peart.—So far as this subject is concerned, it is not personal in any way. We have no complaint to make as to the administration of the fruit branch by Mr Ruddick, but the fruit growers simply feel that the time has come when their industry should be raised to full status. We want to be men now and we want to have a fruit commissioner at the head. That is the idea and there is no complaint or opposition in the slightest degree.

Mr. Brodie.—I think we all feel proud that we have as Dominion horticulturist, our old friend Mr. Macoun. He has elevated fruit growing to a high plane and I think the fruit growers should be satisfied with that.

Mr. H. B. Cowan (Peterboro.)

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen.—May I be allowed to say a few words? I think a point of considerable importance has been missed in this discussion. I have discussed this question with a good many fruit growers and their desire is that the head of the fruit division shall have direct power of initiative and direct admittance to the Minister of Agriculture and not have to go through an intermediary and that is what is being done now. If the head of the fruit division had an opportunity of doing all lines of work and could get credit for the work he did, he would take hold with more vigour and more ambition. Mr. Ruddick mentioned the question of the division and the horticulturist. That same thing applies in all lines. There is live stock on all the experimental farms and yet we have a live stock commissioner. There are seeds on the experimental farms and yet we have a seed commissioner. Like the rest of you, I appreciate the splendid work Mr. Ruddick has done in his department.

Prof. Blair.—We have given this matter a good deal of thought and we have taken a broad view of the question. We think a division which should be under a Dominion horticultural commissioner should be established and some extension work done not only with fruit but also with truck growing and flowers, and there is no reason why the fruit division should not be a very strong one. We all recognize the fact that the department has done a great deal to assist us, yet sometimes we feel as horticulturists that our interests are just as great as the live stock men. I do not think it is necessary to say anything more but I think some definite organization should take place so that in the future we may look to having a Dominion horticultural commissioner.

Mr. Onslow.—As far as our end of the country is concerned, we feel that our interests will require a big man at the head of affairs who will give all his time to it. We are fully satisfied with Mr. Ruddick and feel that our affairs could not be better served, but we would like to have his whole services and his whole time.

Mr. Robert Thompson.—We feel the delicate position we are in. We look upon each other as personal friends. I remember when the last Dominion conference was re-organized, delegates were sent down with instructions along the same lines as we are at present discussing. I was not able to be present but I remember that my friends made use of expressions of disappointment as to the treatment that their resolution received here and I venture to say that the present minister, who was present, voiced the same sentiment.

The Hon. Mr. Burrell.—You are speaking of a similar resolution to this which came before the last conference?

Mr. Thompson.—That is the point. It certainly came before the conference, but it disappeared from the conference. We have heard to-day that the fruit division is not subordinate to the dairy division, and I am afraid that we are no better off than we were.

The Hon. Mr. Burrell.—A different story now, Mr. Thompson.

Mr. Thompson.—Coming to the serious point, there are matters that come up that cannot be approached by anyone but practical fruit growers. I go back to the shipment of peaches to the old country. We are interested in that and it was a good thing and there was one point that struck us very forcibly. The shipment was asked for to establish the feasibility or possibility or practicability of shipping peaches in future to the old land, and while we admitted there would be certain extra work necessary to insure success, still it was not handled by gentlemen who were conversant with handling fruit and who did not know how it could be handled or should be handled. We certainly do want a department to initiate and work out sugges-

tions that may be thrown out by fruit men. The very fact that during the last six months it was necessary to appoint a commissioner to investigate fruit conditions, shows that the head was not in touch with the fruit growers.

COMMISSIONER RUDDICK.—Mr. Thompson has referred to the shipment of peaches in 1910 and has pointed out that the work was in the hands of a man who was not entirely in touch with the fruit interests. He referred to our Mr. Moore who had charge of the work. I need only say that these were the first successful shipments of peaches, on a commercial scale, ever made from Canada. Exactly the same methods were followed by a large private shipper during the past season with every success. Some years ago a trial shipment of peaches was undertaken by this department and it was left to the fruit growers to select and pack them and the result was a miserable failure.

Mr. D. JOHNSON.—It might be wise for me to read how this resolution was passed at the last conference. I have here a report of the last conference which reads as follows:

'Mr. FISHER.—There is a resolution reading: That in the opinion of this conference that the time has arrived when the horticultural interests of the Dominion should be represented by a separate division under a chief directly responsible to the Minister of Agriculture.' Mr. Fisher: Gentlemen, I want to discuss that so I will not put it just now.' He placed it in his pocket and it remained there.

Hon. Mr. BURRELL.—I was at the last conference—I happened to be chairman of the Resolution Committee. I think possibly it is not quite fair to say Mr. Fisher put that in his pocket and therefore shelved the whole thing. My recollection is that that matter was discussed amongst the growers and they themselves did not want to press it to a conclusion at that time. (Hear, hear.) I have a very clear recollection of that because I know I was mixed up in it and I know that was the final action. Don't think for one moment that I am not thinking seriously of these things. There are men in this room that if they were put in my place and understood all this great governmental business, would realize five hundred difficulties that you have not the faintest realization of at the present time. With all due deference, I say it myself because I have had the responsible position of being a member of the opposition. It is marvelous how different a man feels when he has the responsibility for action shoved right on his shoulders. (Applause.) I am saying this in its very broadest application. I do not want any man to think that because a man may find difficulty in carrying into effect any matter, that he must necessarily be stamped with insincerity. My sole duty is to carry out, as far as I can, the real interest of agriculture of this country. (Applause.)

As far as my friends, the fruit growers, are concerned, there are lots of gentlemen who go further than you do. I have a resolution from one of my associations in British Columbia saying that the time had arrived when there should be a separate Department of Horticulture and a Minister of Horticulture. I would ask any gentleman in this room whether it is not true that as far as agricultural matters are concerned, in the four or five months we have been in power, we have not shown explicitly that we are doing for agriculture what has never been done before. (Applause.) We have now a Bill before the House which will mean a larger grant to agriculture than has ever been put through before in this country. (Applause.) We intend to carry out these things and we are going to move wisely and properly rather than move in a hurry and move wrong. Do not think that these things will be put in my pocket and kept there. If our fruit conference is not called for six years—I do not think it will go that time—it certainly will not remain in my pocket six years. We will go into this matter thoroughly and if we do not take action this year, you can rest assured we are not flimflamming the fruit growers. I am glad to have a report of the committee and will do what we believe to be in the interest of horticulture.

The CHAIRMAN.—The resolution will now be referred to the Resolution Committee.

TRANSPORTATION.

The next question is No. 5, on Transportation. Ontario proposes: 'That the railway companies be interviewed by the transportation committee, with a view of improving the refrigerator car accommodation and to protect fruit and that the railway companies be asked to guarantee refrigerator cars to move fruit in cold weather.'

Mr. THOMPSON.—One of the strong points was that our apple shippers could not be guaranteed refrigerator cars for apples and had to wait for weeks, and another point was that they insisted on having them put on the bill of lading shipped by boat and being transferred at the other end, and as a consequence many cars of apples were frozen and it was with a view of having some action taken to remedy that state of affairs that this resolution was put in.

Mr. HAMILTON.—I do not think it was intended that that resolution should be seen here at all. I think it was intended that the transportation committee should take it up. It is a matter almost entirely in the province of Ontario, shipping by car loads, conveyed by steamer to the head of Lake Superior and there transhipped into refrigerator cars. There are not proper cars supplied for that service. I think this resolution that is before the conference at the present time was intended to be as an instruction for the transportation committee of the Ontario Fruit Growers' Association. If there was a National Fruit Growers' Association established which would deal with fruit from the Atlantic to the Pacific and if there was friction between the fruit growers and the transportation companies, we would have a means of focusing the whole body of fruit growers and bring their full weight to bear on the transportation companies, and we could bring the matter before the Board of Railway Commissioners.

The CHAIRMAN.—If this is a resolution simply as to shipping apples from Ontario to the northwest, it is not a proper subject for discussion at this conference. We ought to deal only with national matters.

Mr. ELMER LICK.—There certainly is need of some decided action on the part of this meeting to look to the department on transportation conditions not only for Ontario but for all parts of our country. There ought to go on record some positive and decided statement to the effect that the transportation of our fruit is not up to the standard that it should be. We know of fruit in warm weather, being seventeen days in reaching Winnipeg. We know of numberless other instances where cars were twelve and thirteen days on a trip in cold weather and the fruit was frozen. We ought to be able to agree on some broad principle that would guide the companies in their work towards better transportation conditions. Unless the railways can improve the service that they are giving us to the northwest, we are going to be closed out of that market except for a portion of our early fruit and the men who have gone from the farms of Ontario and Nova Scotia, who want to buy the fruit they are used to, will be shut out from getting it simply because the railways do not provide the accommodation that is necessary. I do not think we should let this matter drop.

Mr. HAMILTON.—This conference has no transportation committee that I am aware of. Therefore, it seems to have been instructions to the transportation committee of the Ontario Fruit Growers' Association. I am thoroughly in accord with what Mr. Elmer Lick says. I think it is one of the most important things and I am sorry it has not been brought before the conference in a more striking way. I believe the time has come when we should, as a national body, take hold of this question and deal with it in a broad, comprehensive way.

Mr. PARKER.—Transportation is the whole thing with us and that is one of the matters that we came to Ottawa to look into. We had an interview with the Minister of Trade and Commerce and we expect to have another one. Transportation down in

Nova Scotia is very important. A line of steamers sailing from Halifax, subsidized by the federal government, is just the same as it was twenty five years ago only not quite so good. Every year we are losing hundreds of thousands of dollars—not thousands of dollars but hundreds of thousands of dollars—in that transportation, and soon we will be losing the markets unless it is changed. We have asked Mr. Foster, the Minister of Trade and Commerce, to simply compel that company to carry out the terms of its contract. We have asked the government to compel them to do that for the last ten years, yet they go on in the same way. The contract provides for 12 knot service and yet we have a service that takes fourteen, sixteen and eighteen days and we have had more than one boat this fall that has taken seventeen and eighteen days going to London. We have another grievance and that is the matter of getting cars for the northwest trade. We could not get any refrigerator cars this fall at all.

Mr. Onslow.—This motion has been placed before me and I do not know whether it should be read now or placed before the Resolution Committee: 'Resolved, that this conference do request the Dominion government to confirm the suggestion of the first report of Mr. Bunting that a commission of three or four be appointed to study the trade conditions, particularly with regard to transportation, and that an official well versed in railway affairs be permanently added to this commission.'

Mr. Hamilton.—I have pleasure in seconding that resolution.

The Chairman.—That is a new resolution and it should have been laid before the Programme Committee. It seems to me that in view of the proposed organization of the National Association, it might be well to leave that over until they make a report. I will put the motion now if you like.

Mr. Pitcairn.—I move that the discussion on this subject be now closed.

Mr. Thompson.—I am in favour of that, but I want to call attention to the fact that we ought to, by unanimous consent, make some definite resolution on that subject.

(Motion to close discussion carried.)

CROP AND MARKET REPORTS

The Chairman.—The next question is No. 4, Crop and Market Reports. Ontario proposes: 'That the government have daily market prices cabled from their agents in the Old Country and published in the daily papers in all provinces of the Dominion.'

Mr. R. W. Grierson.—I have noticed for a great many years that the market reports have not been satisfactory. If we want to know the price of cattle, wheat or grain of any kind, we simply refer to the daily papers but we see nothing at all about apples. The shippers of apples have received reports from commission men in the old country but they are not always satisfactory. They are made with a view to induce shippers to continue sending large shipments of apples and even these reports are not received except occasionally and the fruit growers have no idea of what to ask for their apples. They know one buyer is paying such a price and another buyer another price and they have to put one buyer against the other to get any idea of the value of their apples. I have sometimes written to daily papers asking them to quote prices of apples in their reports and they will do it for two or three issues but they will not continue it. If the Department of Trade and Commerce in their weekly report, would give remarks on the prices of apples, once a week, I am sure that the papers would be very glad to copy that and by that means the general public would get it. I move that the government take some action with regard to that resolution.

Mr. Walter Dempsey.—The fruit growers of Ontario are at the mercy of the agents of the large commission houses in England or Europe for the daily report of

what the goods are selling for. As a matter of fact, only those who are shipping to these commission houses can get these reports, and they have been misleading. If we could get something that we could be quite sure was definite, it would be a great benefit to the apple growers and shippers. We might get the reports from these commissioners weekly or daily. The markets are held over there twice a week and we could easily get them twice a week.

The CHAIRMAN.—Is it your suggestion that the report be sent only during the shipping season?

Mr. DEMPSEY.—Yes, that is all.

The CHAIRMAN.—About how long do you think it would be necessary and when do you think these reports should begin coming? During the sale of Canadian apples over there?

Mr. DEMPSEY.—Yes, during the sale of Canadian apples, ending about March or April. We have a great many growers holding their goods and shipping independent of the buyers and also the co-operative associations.

Mr. LICK.—About the middle of last October the commission houses in England were sending reports here that were most encouraging, that we were going to receive the very highest price and the market was advancing. That ran up to the 18th or 20th of October, and about three days later no information was going of any character except, 'Markets utterly collapsed. Everything flat.' There was something wrong. If there is any way of correctly informing the apple shippers of this country as to the state of the market, it will have a decided benefit.

Mr. D. JOHNSON.—The present difficulty seems to be that the fruit growers of Ontario and other provinces still are largely at the mercy of the reports sent from the Old Country by commission merchants. These reports always give the highest price and do not give the low prices. We would like to have the average prices either through the newspapers or by circular.

The CHAIRMAN.—I think I have the sense of the speakers on this question, and it is a matter that will probably be dealt with by the Department of Trade and Commerce. I am not in a position to make any promises with regard to the matter, but I will say that any resolution that is passed by this conference will be passed on to the proper authorities. I do not see, myself, that there should be any objection or difficulty about getting cables from time to time and as often as it seems to be desirable, and this information can be given out to the press.

That completes the programme handed in by the Programme Committee, with the exception of two resolutions which have been handed to me by the chairman of the Programme Committee since the session began. One is: 'Moved by D. Johnson and seconded by E. Dewar, that this Conference of Canadian Fruit Growers, with the view of showing the tremendous possibilities of Canada as a fruit growing country, present to each member of the House of Commons and Senate a sample of our apples as here exhibited, and that, further, His Excellency the Duke of Connaught be asked to graciously accept a case of apples from each province.' I may say that the Minister of Agriculture intimated to His Royal Highness yesterday that it was our intention to send him one box from each province, and he will get these to-morrow morning. With respect to presenting the members of the House of Commons and the Senate with sample apples, it will be Monday before it will be possible to do that, and the apples will have to be removed to-morrow. If we could find some way of carrying out your wishes in that respect we will be very glad to do so. The apples have to be disposed of because there is a large amount invested in them. They have been paid for by the department and at a pretty big price, and we will have to realize something on them.

PROPOSED NATIONAL APPLE SHOW.

The other resolution is: 'Resolved that the Dominion Government be asked to appropriate $5,000 towards the expenses of the next Canadian National Apple Show, provided that at least $20,000 is offered in premiums by the promoters.' This motion is moved by W. S. Blair and seconded by A. E. Dewar. I do not know where this show is going to be held or anything about it.

Mr. Blair.—It does not make much difference where the exhibition is going to be held. If that amount of prize money is given, it would be in the interests of the fruit growers of the Dominion of Canada. We have in view the holding of such an exhibition in Montreal next year. Whether or not we will be able to do so, remains to be seen. We wish to go on with it if we possibly can. We feel that it is of great importance to the fruit growers of Canada and we think a motion of this kind will strengthen our hands and we might thereby get some assistance from the federal department to help carry on this work. There is no better way of stimulating the fruit industry of this country than by these large national apple shows.

Mr. Dewar.—I have much pleasure in seconding that motion.

Mr. Pitcairn.—I think it should be left absolutely to the promoters of such exhibitions. None of us know who the promoters are and I do not think it is within the province of this meeting to suggest that the Dominion government should offer a grant to some unknown promoters of some unknown exhibition. I think $5,000 could be spent in a much more profitable way for the encouragement of the fruit industry. We are tired of these exhibitions in the west. They simply mean one prolonged headache and nobody is very happy.

Mr. Brodie.—We are not tired of them in the east and we have not had any experience but we are willing to go ahead and do our best but we expect co-operation and help. If we cannot be promised exhibits from British Columbia and Ontario and the maritime provinces, we cannot make a success of it. Our provincial government is willing to help in the matter. I have had some correspondence with the Provincial Minister. If Vancouver can raise $25,000, the metropolis of Canada should be able to do a little better. I understand the federal government gave $1,000 to help out the exhibit at Vancouver and I think we should increase that amount a little more. Montreal is the national port and $5,000 is a small amount. I think we should have asked for $10,000.

Mr. Blair.—The promoters of this apple show are the Quebec Fruit Growers' Association.

Mr. Allen.—The time has arrived when Eastern Canada should have a national fruit show. Working on the supposition that people who ask for little get nothing and those who ask for a good deal get a little, we should ask for at least $10,000 and make it a National Fruit Show, something that we will not be ashamed of. The little provincial shows do not do much good but if we get a National show, we can bring apples from all the different provinces. If we cannot carry the show to the people, we must bring the people to the show.

The Chairman.—I do not know that much would be gained by discussing this resolution any further. I do not think it is likely the government will give any money until you have some definite scheme to propose. That is the first thing to do. The resolution will be referred now, as the other resolutions have been, to the Resolution Committee.

Meeting adjourned.

FRIDAY, February 16, 1912, 2 p.m.

CLOSING SESSION.

Commissioner J. A. RUDDICK in the chair.

The CHAIRMAN.—We have now arrived at the crucial point of the conference and I hope we will be able to dispose of these resolutions, bearing on the various subjects, without any difficulty. The first is a report from the Special Committee on question one, relating to packages.

RESOLUTIONS.

Mr. THOMPSON.—Your Committee after discussing the question and taking into consideration the arguments that were advanced agreed unanimously to bring in the following report: First, with regard to apple boxes, that the words 'For export only' be struck out. The committee felt that it was better to leave the matter in abeyance for a year or two as regards the exact shape of the boxes.

'Resolved that this conference recommend, for domestic trade, the legalization of the apple box at a capacity of 2,200 cubic inches as nearly as possible, and be it further resolved that this amendment come into force in two years.' (See amendment.)

'*Re* Box Packages. Whereas discussion has brought out considerable difference of opinion as to the most suitable shapes for the various box-packages of fruit,—

'Be it resolved that decision on this subject be deferred in order to enable the various fruit growers' organizations to investigate thoroughly and report with recommendations to the next Dominion Fruit Conference, and be it further resolved that the conference request the Dominion Department of Agriculture to undertake the organization of the investigation.' (Carried.)

That leaves it with the different provincial associations to look into the matter as they have done in the past and put it in shape to give their findings to the Dominion Department of Agriculture, where there must be some head to undertake this investigation.

'*Re* pear box. Resolved that the pear box be adopted as the legal size for crab-apples.' (Carried.)

'*Re* baskets. Resolved that the Dominion Government be requested to have the forms issued to basket manufacturers, so as to ensure uniform size of fruit baskets.' (Carried.)

'*Re* plum crate. Resolved that the four basket plum crate, $15\frac{3}{4}$ x $15\frac{3}{4}$ x $4\frac{1}{4}$ inches, inside measurement, be made legal for Canada.' (Carried.)

'Whereas there are two sizes of apple barrels in general use in Canada, and whereas it would appear that uniformity would be more nearly obtained by the adoption of the specified standard sizes for use in Canada, be it resolved that the conference recommend the government to provide two standards, one the 96 quart barrel commonly used in Nova Scotia, and the other the 112 quart barrel commonly used in Ontario, and that the department provide for the enforcement of the use, by all growers and dealers, of one or the other of these standards, and that the manufacturers be held responsible.' (Carried.)

I move the adoption of this report. I presume you will take it up clause by clause.

The CHAIRMAN.—You have heard this report. We will consider it clause by clause. On clause one:

W. F. SOMERS, B.C.—I move the following amendment:—

'Be it resolved that this conference recommend for domestic trade the legalization of the apple box at a capacity of 2,200 cubic inches as nearly as possible and that the dimensions of the box be 10 x 11 x 20 inches, inside measure.'

The reason for doing that is, that at the last two annual meetings of the British Columbia Fruit Growers' Association we adopted that size, and if you want any further proof that that is the best size, I would ask you to look at the exhibit behind the chairman.

Mr. THOMPSON.—We took that into consideration. We had two members from British Columbia on the committee, and in view of the uncertainty of getting boxes of the uniform size, it was deemed wise not to take action. I do not think it is wise to press for these.

Mr. W. A. PEARN.—I prefer that action.

Mr. ARKELL.—I have pleasure in seconding that amendment. My reason for doing so is that I think it is twenty years since Canada started in to find a suitable box for apples, and at the end of twenty years we have not a proper box. One gentleman from British Columbia announced yesterday that he was not responsible to the fruit growers of British Columbia, and that really left only one of our men on the committee. You can have no better example than the Department of Agriculture placing before you only one sized box. If you adopt this amendment it will not be altered in a life time. If there is a better box, why have the department not placed some apples in such a box so that we could see it?

Mr. R. W. SHEPHERD.—A box 10 x 11 x 20 is the size that is used for export, and it has met all the requirements of the domestic trade. Why not adopt it altogether? It seems to me that we are not advancing at all at this conference with regard to packages, and that is one of the principal things for which we met.

Mr. M. C. SMITH, Ontario Apple Shippers' Association.—This is one of the most important questions before the conference. Six years ago a resolution was brought before the conference asking that the measurement of boxes be 20 x 11 x 10, inside measure, and that that be made the legal box for Canada. That was carried unanimously by the conference six years ago. Before that was put into effect, an Act of Parliament was passed, and it has been a matter of regret ever since that the government of the day allowed itself to be influenced by the importunities of a few members of parliament who evidently manifested anxiety to keep company with the benighted and unprogressive members of their constituencies. There was a cry went up from one end of this Dominion to the other against the introduction into that Act of the words, 'For export.' It never was the intention of the originators of that movement nor of this conference six years ago, and it was a mistake to put them in. If you cannot have uniformity and an honest box at home, how can you ever expect to have it for the outside trade? What is good enough for the foreign trade ought to be good enough for the Canadian consumer. We come to this conference with the spirit of co-operation on our lips. We have had correspondence from a number of men asking for uniformity of packages. It was carried at the last conference and supported in parliament. I certainly think this amendment should carry. There is no use attempting to get uniformity in other packages if we cannot have uniformity in apple boxes.

Mr. HUBBARD.—It seems to me that there is a lot of anxiety to pass the amendment after the matter has been very thoroughly considered by the gentlemen on the

committee and in view of the evidence, that we have from people who are in the box trade, we should go slow. We are only in our infancy. I do not think the last conference was in a position to decide because we had not had experience. Now, when we come up against the problem, those who are particularly interested want to get where they can do the best work. We have already got evidence from the packing districts of the United States that they find their boxes very much better and it seems to me that it is a mistake to pass any such hide bound resolution as this amendment.

Mr. Thos. Abriel.—Mr. Gibb told us yesterday that 70 per cent could be packed to greater advantage in these boxes. We are not seeking large apples for export. This is the statement Mr. Gibb made here yesterday.

Rev. Father Leopold.—That is the statement he made at the Ontario Agricultural College.

Mr. A. Onslow.—We have got to meet competition from the United States in the west.

The Chairman.—The question is on the amendment. (Amendment carried.)

The next question will now be taken up: *Re* Box Packing.

Mr. W. F. Somers.—I think in view of the fact that we have just adopted that amendment, it would be well to make some alterations in the motion. (Original motion carried.)

Re Pear Box.

Mr. Thompson.—You had better refer the whole matter back to the committee because I am sorry to say that quite a number who voted did not understand what they were voting on. Anybody who has never shipped boxes in car loads cannot understand the difficulty of having standard lengths and standard weights and the whole thing hinges on that.

Mr. A. W. Peart.—What is the size of the pear boxes?

Mr. T. Abriel.—18¼ x 11 x 8½.

The Chairman.—There is no standard. I do not see how you propose to deal with this question.

Mr. W. F. Somers.—I do not see anything wrong in passing it. There seems to be some difference of opinion as to the size that should be adopted for pear boxes. No matter what size is adopted, we want that same size for crab apples.

The Chairman.—It was evidently the intention of the committee that the question of the size of pear boxes and crab apple boxes should be referred to this special committee to report at the next conference. This whole question of the pear boxes and the crab apple boxes will be referred to this committee.

(*Re* Baskets—Carried.)

(*Re* Plum crates—Carried.)

(*Re* Apple barrels—Carried.)

Mr. A. E. Dewar.—Mr. Chairman: If it is not out of order, I would ask to have that resolution withdrawn. I would not like to see the standards adopted. I think it would make more confusion. I think this matter will settle itself. The statement the Nova Scotia man made yesterday that if they adopted a larger barrel, the steamship companies would raise the freight is important. I think the matter should be allowed to stand.

Mr. HAROLD JONES.—It would lead to confusion and might possibly lead to litigation between the packers and freight men. You will find the Ontario barrel, by actual measurement, does not hold 112 quarts and if it was designated in that way, it would lead to confusion and possibly litigation.

The CHAIRMAN.—I am doubtful if it would be according to parliamentary practice to have two standards. I do not think you can have such a thing in law.

Mr. L. A. HAMILTON.—That was debated in the United States when they started to debate the gold and silver standard and they came to the conclusion that the gold standard was the proper thing. I would prefer to have the standard remain as it is.

Mr. R. THOMPSON.—It was intended to have the length and measurement of the barrrels put in the motion and Mr. Chute was to take charge of that. I am surprised at Mr. Ruddick and Mr. Hamilton when they say we cannot have two sizes. At the present time, we have four sizes in baskets and there is no question about the legality.

Mr. J. N. CHUTE.—If we cannot accomplish our ideas as to what should be the standard size, let us get as near to it as possible. It is impossible for us to make the Ontario people see our way and it is impossible for them to make the Nova Scotia people see their way. Now the Ontario people are making a shorter barrel than the common size and in Nova Scotia men make smaller barrels than the common size. If we have two standards, then we can try and make the people live up to one size or the other. Perhaps by the time the next conference is called, Nova Scotia will agree to the Ontario barrel or Ontario may agree with Nova Scotia. At the present time, we cannot come to an agreement. I think the best possible way out of the difficulty is to adopt two standards and let the Nova Scotia people go their way and the Ontario people theirs.

Mr. R. W. SHEPHERD.—Why not leave the law as it is, that the apple barrels should not be less than 96 quarts?

Mr. A. E. DEWAR.—Supposing you have two standards; there would be sixteen quarts difference. Supposing a cooper turned out a barrel of 109 quarts, who would decide as to whether that barrel was made for the 96 quart size or 112? I would prefer to have it as it is.

Mr. C. O. ALLEN.—By the time our friend from Prince Edward Island has had as much experience as we have had in Nova Scotia, he will be a little better acquainted with the subject. If we cannot agree on one size, is it not better that we should have two instead of three or four? As one speaker told you, they have two sizes in Ontario and in Nova Scotia we have three or four. I do not see any difficulty in having 112 quart barrels in Ontario and 96 quart barrels in Nova Scotia. We have just as good reason to expect the Ontario people to come to our size barrel as we should go to theirs. We are nearer the standard. If you read the Fruit Marks Act, you will see that it refers to our standard, 96 quarts. We have tried to follow the Fruit Marks Act as nearly as possible. We have been shipping apples in these barrels for years and years and the people in the section of England to which we ship, are familiar with that sized barrel and they are giving us relative value for our fruit. We have also sent our fruit to the northern part of Europe and we feel that the people are becoming educated to our barrel.

A MEMBER.—Why not leave it as it is?

Mr. ALLEN.—We have three or four different sized barrels and we have no standard.

Mr. R. B. WHYTE.—We should have the size stamped on the outside of each barrel.

Mr. R. THOMPSON.—As far as the barrels are concerned, that resolution was drawn up in accordance with the present law as far as the 96 quart barrel is concerned. We

were told that the present measurements were not exactly correct. The question of measurement is one for the department to take up.

Mr. M. C. Smith.—Is it supposed to be 96 quarts Imperial measure or wine measure?

Mr. Thompson.—The same measure as in the law at the present time.

The Chairman.—Imperial.

Mr. Smith.—Do you mean to say the 96 quarts are supposed to be Imperial measure? I will venture the opinion that Nova Scotia never had three Imperial bushels in a barrel. I have shipped thousands and thousands of barrels of apples from Nova Scotia, and I know a little about the size of the barrels, and I would like to take any man in this hall to the cold storage warehouse in this city and there are hundreds of barrels of apples there and I will venture anything, that you cannot get one barrel in the cold storage that will measure three Imperial bushels. The Ontario barrels are not three bushels. We call them three bushels and three quarts. I know positively that there is no such a thing as a 96 quart barrel made in Nova Scotia for apples.

Mr. A. E. Dewar.—I think the English law provides that heap measure shall be at least one-fifth of the height of the measure which would account for the discrepancy.

Mr. Allen.—I would not speak positively as to the 96 quarts, but I presume that the Weights and Measure Department was satisfied with the size of the barrel. I presume these people knew what they were doing when they figured out these sizes and I presume it is 96 quarts. That is if we live up to the size of our barrel, and I think we live up to it as well as Ontario lives up to the 112 barrel. I want to read a telegram I have received from St. John: 'C.P.R. If the size of the barrel be enlarged, railway freight will be increased and the same thing will happen on the steamships.' The basis of all freight is the size or tonnage and we must expect that no company will carry freight across the Atlantic for nothing.

Mr. Dewar.—I move that that resolution lay on the table.

Mr. Annear.—I second that motion.

The Chairman.—Are you ready for the question?

Mr. F. A. Chipman.—You are overlooking one of the most important points in the discussion. The packer is responsible for the size of the barrel and he is liable to the twenty-five cent fine if it is not minimum. We want a law making a standard barrel and it is the cooper's fault if it is not. If you lay this motion on the table, then there is no change made. We want a small barrel but we want it uniform. We do not want them any smaller than they are now. There is no danger of anybody making them larger.

Mr. James.—It seems to be a pity to put so much work on this motion and then shelve it for six years. It is a shame to have a stigma on the trade. Let us settle in one way or the other. Nova Scotia will wake up some day and find they are mistaken.

(Amendment, 'To lay clause as to apple barrels on the table,' lost.)

The Chairman.—Shall this report as amended be adopted as a whole? The first clause was amended and that is the only one.

A Member.—There is some little doubt as to what you mean.

The Chairman.—The report as Mr. Thompson read it was considered, and then it was read clause by clause and the first clause was amended. Now I want you to pass the whole report. All in favour of this report as amended will signify. (Carried.)

Mr. F. A. Chipman.—Do we understand that that apple barrel resolution has been passed?

The Chairman.—Yes.

REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE *RE* FRUIT MARKS ACT.

Mr. ELMER LOCK.—I have no doubt there will be considerable discussion on this report, which I will now present. The first resolution is:—

(1) Resolved that we urge upon the Minister of Agriculture the greatest care in securing competent inspectors, and to this end suggest that the advice of a commission of three fruit growers or dealers from each fruit growing province would be found of valuable assistance in securing suitable men for appointment as inspectors. (Carried.)

(2) Resolved that sufficient inspection at point of entry in connection with imported deciduous fruit be made, so as to ensure it being marketed under the conditions of the Sale and Inspection Act. (Carried.)

(3) Resolved that the Minister of Agriculture cause investigation to be made as to the possibility of giving to applicants, on payment of a reasonable charge, a certificate of the results of any inspection made. (Carried.)

(4) Resolved that when an inspector has examined a closed package of fruit, it be stamped, 'Inspected by No.....' (Carried.)

(5) Resolved that the Fruit Marks Act be so amended as to make it compulsory to mark, on the outside of the box the number of apples contained therein. (Carried.)

(6) Resolved that this conference recommend that the Department of Agriculture divide the fruit growing provinces into suitable districts, with a permanent and capable fruit inspector and instructor in each district, so as to ensure, to the greatest possible extent, inspection at the point of shipment. (Carried.)

(7) Resolved that section 321, clauses 2 and 3, of the Inspection and Sale Act, be amended in such a way that the minimum size of apples packed in barrels be as follows:—

For Golden Russets, Fameuse and kindred varieties, 2¾ in. for No. 1 and 2¼ in. for No. 2.

For Baldwins, Spies, Greenings, Ribston and kindred sized varieties, 2½ in. for No. 1 and 2¼ in. for No. 2.

For Kings, Blenheims, Wolf River and kindred sized varieties, 2¾ in. for No. 1 and 2½ in. for No. 2.

(Carried.)

I move the adoption of the report.

The CHAIRMAN.—We will take the report up clause by clause.

Mr. PITCAIRN.—I move that the first six clauses be put to the meeting without further discussion.

(First clause read and carried.)

(Second clause read and carried.)

(Third clause read and carried.)

(Fourth clause read and carried.)

(Fifth clause read.)

Mr. A. W. PEART.—I take exception to that clause. I think it would be a great detriment to shippers. In the district where I live we have been packing apples in boxes for a good many years. We limit our apples to No. 1. No. 1 apples may vary in size. No. 1 Baldwins and Spies may vary in size, and it would be a very great hardship to us if we had to put so many in a box. I do not think we could pack half the apples in a day that we are doing now.

Mr. PITCAIRN.—The motion does not say that you must put 100 in a box, but you must state how many are in the box. You will not have to pack a certain number. If you look at one of the boxes on the platform you will see that there are seven apples perpendicular and four across. Seven times four are 28 and four deep makes 112. Any man in a packing house can do that without any trouble. It would be a straightforward statement of the contents of the box. The wholesaler now has to open up twenty boxes before he will find a suitable box for his customer.

Mr. DEWAR.—I do not think there is anything else that would be more in the interests of the fruit growers than to have the number marked on the boxes. I find that the larger apples sell for the most money. If a buyer opens one box, he will know what the other boxes will be like. I think it should be made compulsory. I do not care whether it is compulsory or not, no box will leave my hands without having the number of apples marked on the outside.

Mr. BUNTING.—I regret that I am obliged to disagree with Mr. Peart in this matter. A box of apples should be of uniform size and well packed. The fact of placing the number of apples on the box compels the shipper to pack his apples uniformly, and unless we pay attention to having the apples uniform in size, we will not make a success of box packing of apples in Ontario.

Mr. PEART.—We have done that already.

Mr. BUNTING.—When a man is accustomed to packing, he can tell at once how many apples are going to put in the box. I was at Hood River and saw them packing there, and some of the packers stamped the number of apples on the box before they commenced to pack. I do not know whether we could do that in Ontario yet, but we will certainly be able to tell if we pack uniform sized apples in the box. I do not think it would be any hardship to do that. I am sure it will be an advantage to the packer and to the dealer and consumer.

Mr. ROOKE.—Take a box of large sized apples compared with a box of smaller sized, would there be any great difference in the amount of waste? Would you get about a bushel or forty pounds to the box?

A MEMBER.—Larger apples would weigh less.

Mr. DEWAR.—You will have more weight in the medium sized apple than in the larger apple.

Mr. GIBB.—I agree that we should put the number on the boxes. Greenings could be packed 4½ tiers, 113 to the box, and other apples you could pack 128. I think it would be a great deal better to have the number of apples on the box instead of the number of tiers.

(Original clause carried.)

(Seventh clause carried.)

Mr. HAROLD JONES.—In Quebec and in New Brunswick, where the orchards are under sod in a season such as we have had this last season, there are a great many Fameuse of a high colour and well developed and free from blemish, but small under

2¼. I have no objection to the number 1 size being 2¼. I believe for the successful harvesting of the Fameuse crop of apples in eastern counties, in Quebec and New Brunswick, the No. 2 size should be reduced to two inches. If 2¼ is adopted for No. 2 it will eliminate the No. 2 altogether, and the result will be that we will pack No. 1 and the balance will be No. 3. I move an amendment to that resolution that the size of the Fameuse No. 2 be two inches.

Mr. R. W. Shepherd.—I second that motion.

Mr. Harold Jones.—I am speaking particularly of the Fameuse. If it is put at two inches it will be small, but still it will contain all its qualities of flavour and texture. The Golden Russet is a very different apple. When it is reduced to the size of two inches, it does not possess all the qualities of the fully matured apple. It is more or less of woody texture and is off flavour.

Mr. Shepherd.—We have raised the standard of No. 1 Fameuse from 2¼ to 2½, and I approve of that, but as Mr. Jones has said, if we make the No. 2, 2¼, then we will have no No. 2 and it will be either No. 1 or No. 3. I have one customer in England who does not want me to send him any Fameuse of a larger diameter than 2½ inches. That gentleman is Lord Mount Stephen. I have to adopt a special case for him. I pack all my Fameuse in compartment cases. The reason he gives is that the Fameuse at 2½ is large enough for dessert purposes and it keeps better and has all the flavour of the larger apple.

Mr. Allen.—I am glad that investigation has shown up a little better on this question. We have such a beautiful climate that we do not need to ship such small apples as Quebec and Ontario.

The Chairman.—Mr. Jones' amendment only affects the Fameuse. There is where you are going to have difficulties in fixing the size of apples.

Mr. Jones.—If you could couple the Golden Russet with some other variety and give the Fameuse a distinct class by itself, it would be better.

The Chairman.—We will have to add another clause for the Fameuse; 2¼ inches for No. 1 and 2 inches for No. 2.

Mr. Thompson.—The committee had apples before them and it was impossible to find an apple that was fit for shipping that was only two inches.

Mr. H. Jones.—I know what I am talking about and when you come down to actual work, two inches is large enough for a No. 2 Fameuse.

Rev. Father Leopold.—You will not find many over two inches if the orchard is under sod.

Mr. Tappan Adney.—If you make two inches for the Fameuse, you will have a great many orchards that will never be anything else but sod orchards.

Mr. Elmer Lick.—I recognize that this is one of the most difficult problems that we have to face in connection with our work. As far as the Golden Russet is concerned, there would be no objection in our section if they were put in with the Baldwins. I hope we will get this matter settled so that it will be a starting point for a development that will lead to advancement equal to that of the Fruit Marks Act in the ten or twelve years it has been in force.

Mr. Harold Jones.—The Fameuse harvested in the eastern counties of Quebec that were two inches in diameter, brought on the market wholesale in car lots, $3 per barrel f.o.b. This summer apples were sold on the market at from $3.25 to $3.50 per barrel.

This little green apple that the committee had before them did not give a right impression of the Fameuse of the same size. There is another apple grown in the east that commands a very high price, the Pomme Gris. If you couple the Golden Russet with the Baldwins and Greenings by giving the Golden Russet a size by itself, and the Fameuse a distinction by itself, it would do away with the difficulty. I admit that two inches is too small for No. 2 Golden Russet.

Mr. Blair.—We are dealing altogether with the size of the apple, and that is only one consideration in determining the grade.

The Chairman.—I would like to hear from Mr. McNeill on this question.

Mr. McNeill.—Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen: The question of the size is a simple matter. If it is described in inches, the inspectors will have very little to do in exercising their judgment. I would beg of you before you fix the size here that you secure something that will be satisfactory to yourselves. After you have decided that, the Fruit Division will have no difficulty in enforcing it. The inspectors will simply take out their calipers and measure the apples, and they can do that without trouble. The main thing is for you to decide upon the size among yourselves so that when apples meet from British Columbia, Nova Scotia and Ontario, there will be no trouble in Winnipeg or Regina. We do not want anybody to say to the inspector, 'Oh, but you do not know how the apples grow down in Nova Scotia or how they grow in the valleys of British Columbia.' My own opinion is, and I have no hesitation in stating it, not in a dictatorial way, but simply as a result of my eleven years' experience with the Fruit Division, that there is actually little or no friction with reference to the size designations that we now have.

A Member.—You have been making prosecutions in Nova Scotia.

Mr. McNeill.—Yes, some twenty this year in Nova Scotia. I speak subject to correction, but I do not think there has been a single conviction where there would not have been a conviction had the matter of size never been mentioned.

A Member.—What was the fault?

Mr. McNeill.—The fruit was poorly grown, immature, scabby, wormy or had a combination of all these faults together with lack of colour, so that there was over 10 per cent in the case of No. 1 or 20 per cent in the case of No. 2, that were defective, without taking colour into consideration.

Mr. Tappan Adney.—Have your inspectors measured apples in the course of their inspection?

Mr. McNeill.—Certainly, they often measure apples.

Mr. Adney.—Instead of leaving the size to the fruit inspector, we should decide what size would be good.

Mr. McNeill.—The point is worth considering. Most of us here this morning are struggling to fix the proper size for each variety.

Mr. Adney.—Many of the consumers do not know the difference between a Baldwin and a Wealthy. There are hundreds of difficulties that will come up as to apples from the different provinces, but that is no reason why we should not make an effort to get a standard.

Mr. Hamilton.—We all agree on the size, with the exception of the Fameuse. There are many men going out from the city into the orchard business, and they do not know what instructions to give their men as to packing. We are up against that stumbling block. I do not think there ever was a better step taken than the one we are taking now.

Mr. McNeill.—The Fruit Division will have no difficulties. It can enforce such regulations.

The Chairman.—Mr. Jones moves, seconded by Mr. Shepherd, that this clause be amended by making a separate size for the Fameuse, 2¾ for No. 1 and 2 inches for No. 2.

(Clause as amended carried.)

Then the clause will read as follows: 'For Fameuse, 2¾ for No. 1, 2 inches for No. 2.' I would like to ask the views of the members of the Resolution Committee in regard to who is to determine 'kindred varieties.'

Mr. Hamilton.—It was thought that we had covered the whole range of apples that were being shipped. I do not think the question will ever be raised.

Mr. Smith, B.C.—There are a good many men in this conference who are not saying anything on this resolution, but they are thinking a great deal. I think you will find out in the end that this is a most impractical resolution. (No, no) and further, if it is carried and put on the statute books of the Dominion, those who are supporting it will find they have heaped up for themselves a bunch of trouble that they will be very glad to get rid of. There are two essential things in the proper grading of commercial packages, one is uniformity of size and the other is quality. There are no two provinces and no two districts in any one province that produce anything like the same variety of apple and you will find you have no end of trouble.

Mr. Dewar.—I think we ought to go a little bit slow. We do not realize where it might lead us to if this resolution goes through. If it becomes law and then we find it is not workable, we may have to ask to have it repealed. There are more prosecutions for want of colour than anything else.

Motion as amended carried.

The Chairman. 'And that where a packer of apples in barrels desires to establish a higher minimum standard for a portion or all of his pack, he may do so by stamping or stencilling on the face end of the barrel, the minimum diameter in inches and fractions thereof, and that the diameter so marked shall be the minimum standard of size for such barrel.' (Carried.)

I will now read this whole report as amended. The only amendment is changing the size of No. 2 Fameuse apples.

(Moved by Mr. Elmer Lick, seconded by Mr. Smith, that the report as amended be adopted. Carried.)

The Chairman.—I have just received the following telegram from Father Burke who was prominent at our last conference: 'Regret inability to participate in convention which I long advocated. Dominion horticultural interests very important and requiring co-ordination and practical encouragement. God speed your good work.'

REPORT OF RESOLUTION COMMITTEE.

Mr. A. E. Dewar.—The Resolution Committee brought in a number of reports, and there were three special committees appointed, and they have also brought in some reports and they did not leave us very much to do. The resolutions are:

1. Resolved that this Third Conference of the Fruit Growers of Canada would suggest to the Honourable the Minister of Agriculture for the Dominion, to keep in view the fact that the fruit interests of Canada are now of sufficient importance to warrant the placing of the Fruit Division of the Dominion Department of Agriculture on the same basis as that of the Seed and Live Stock Branches, with a commissioner appointed in charge.

2. Resolved that the government have daily market prices cabled from their commercial agents in Europe, published in the daily papers in all provinces of the Dominion during the shipping season.

3. Resolved that a Transportation Committee be appointed to interview the railway and steamship companies with a view of improving the transportation facilities for fruit, and also for improving the refrigerator car accommodation, and that the railway companies be asked to guarantee to provide frost-proof cars to move fruit in cold weather.

4. Resolved that the Dominion government be asked to appropriate $10,000 (ten thousand dollars) towards the expenses of the next Canadian National Apple Show, provided that at least $20,000 (twenty thousand dollars) is offered in premiums by the promoters.

Moved by Mr. Dewar and seconded by Mr. Peart, that the report of the Resolution Committee be adopted. (Carried.)

Mr. THOMPSON.—There are two sets of resolutions. They are not all included in the resolutions that are before you. One of the resolutions that has been passed has been put in better shape; that is the resolution with regard to transportation. The Chairman was told that it should be changed and appeared to be willing, but when the time came, it was not amended.

Moved by Mr. Thompson and seconded by Mr. Onslow that clause 3 be struck out of the report and the following substituted therefor:

'That in the opinion of this conference one of the first duties of the directors of the National Fruit Growers' Association would be to appoint a Transportation Committee of three members to look after the interests of the fruit growers with the railway companies, and that committee shall have power to appoint an expert transportation agent to investigate claims and rates with the railway, express and steamship companies, cars and other equipment for the proper carrying of fruit and to prepare cases from time to time for submission to the Dominion Railway Board.' (Carried.)

Mr. THOMPSON.—There is another resolution with regard to co-operation, and I move that it be adopted, seconded by Mr. Peart:

'That the Dominion Department of Agriculture be asked to inquire into such legislation as will permit the formation of co-operative fruit associations in any part of the Dominion of Canada upon the same lines as have been found so successful in the older countries.' (Carried.)

I move, seconded by Mr. Shepherd: 'That the conference has learned with deep regret of the sudden death of Mrs. Annie L. Jack of Chateauguay Basin, Quebec, mother of Mr. N. E. Jack, one of our representatives from the province of Quebec, and that we desire to extend our deepest sympathy to Mr. Jack and the other members of the family in this affliction.' (Carried by standing vote of all the delegates.)

The CHAIRMAN.—We will now have the report of the committee appointed to consider the question of the formation of the National Fruit Growers' Association.

Mr. P. W. Hodgetts:

CONSTITUTION.

CANADIAN NATIONAL FRUIT GROWERS' ASSOCIATION.

(1) This Association shall be called the Canadian National Fruit Growers' Association.

OBJECTS.

(2) The objects of the Association shall be:—

(*a*) To encourage improvements in fruit growing.

(*b*) To develop markets for fruit abroad.

(*c*) To initiate and influence legislation affecting Canadian fruit interests and generally to take such action as the best interests of the industry may from time to time demand.

MEMBERSHIP.

(3) The membership of the Association shall be composed of the following representatives:—

(*a*) The President, Vice-President and Secretary of every Provincial Fruit Growers' Association.

(*b*) The Chief Officer of the Fruit Branch or such other officer in each province as may have charge of the fruit interests.

(*c*) The Commission of the Dominion Department of Agriculture in charge of the fruit interests.

(*d*) The Minister and Deputy Minister of Agriculture for the Dominion of Canada shall be ex-officio members of the Association.

(*e*) Such other persons as may hereafter be named by the Association on the recommendation of the executive.

DIRECTORS.

(4) The Board of Directors of this Association shall consist of:—

(*a*) The Executive Committee.

(*b*) One Representative appointed by each Provincial Association.

(5) The Executive Committee shall consist of the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and three members to be elected by the Association.

(6) At each of the general meetings of the Association, a President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, three members of the Executive Committee and an auditor shall be elected who shall hold office until their successors are appointed.

(7) The Directors shall have power to appoint committees from among their number or otherwise. At the first meeting of each committee a Chairman shall be elected.

(8) The Executive Committee shall carry into effect the place of work decided upon by the Directors.

(9) In case a vacancy occurs in the Executive or Directorate, the Executive Committee shall fill the vacancy forthwith and the appointee shall remain in office until the successor is elected.

(10) General meetings of the Association shall be called at such intervals as may be determined upon by the Directors.

(11) Notice of each meeting of the Association shall be mailed at least twenty days prior to date of meeting to each member whose address is known to the Secretary.

(12.) Directors' and Executive Meetings shall be called by mailing notices at least fourteen days before the date of the meeting to each Director or member of the Executive Committee. Directors residing West of Ontario or East of Quebec shall also be notified by telegram at time of mailing said notices.

(*a*) Directors' and Executive Meetings may be held on shorter notice than above, providing a majority consent thereto.

(13) Twelve members shall be a quorum of any meeting of the Association; six shall be a quorum of a meeting of the Directors and three of the Executive Committee.

DUTIES OF THE OFFICERS.

President.

(14) It shall be the duty of the President to preside at all meetings of the Association and decide all questions of order, subject to the will of the Association, and to render such other services as the Directors may require.

Vice-President.

(15) It shall be the duty of the Vice-President to aid and assist the President. In the absence of the President, the duties and powers of the President shall devolve on the Vice-President.

Secretary-Treasurer.

(16) It shall be the duty of the Secretary to attend all meetings of the Association, the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee, to keep correct minutes of the same, to conduct all correspondence, to issue all press and other reports and prepare for publication the Annual Report. He shall have the power of Managing Director, acting under the control and with the approval of the Executive, without the right to vote. By virtue of his office, he shall be a member of each Committee.

As Treasurer he shall receive and forthwith deposit in a chartered bank authorized by the Executive, all moneys belonging to the Association, and shall pay all accounts authorized by the Executive per cheque countersigned by the President.

(17) The Directors or members of the Executive, or of any Committee, may perform through correspondence the duties assigned to them by the Constitution, or by the Association, when such course is deemed advisable.

(18) The actual and reasonable expenses of Directors, when attending Board or Executive meetings, shall be paid by the Association, which, exclusive of transportation, shall not exceed $4 a day. The Secretary is hereby authorized to pay such accounts on receipt of a detailed statement of expenses accompanied by vouchers for all items of $2 and over, except for transportation.

(19) Only the expenses of Officers or Directors may be paid by this Association.

BY-LAWS.

(20) The Association shall, at its first meeting, adopt such by-laws and regulations as may be expedient and not inconsistent with the Constitution.

ADDITIONS AND AMENDMENTS.

(21) Any member desiring to introduce any addition or amendment to the Constitution shall notify the Secretary in writing, inclosing therewith a draft thereof at least sixty days prior to the date of any meeting of the Association. A copy of the proposed addition or amendment shall be sent by the Secretary to each known member of the Association.

(22) Any addition or amendment shall require a two-thirds vote of the members present at the meeting to pass.

Mr. Onslow.—Do we understand that the Railway Commission will make inquiries as to the railway rates? I would like to know whether the department has taken any steps to have the fruit growers represented at that inquiry.

The Chairman.—I do not know anything about that.

Mr. Shepherd.—What will be the membership fees in this National Fruit Association?

Mr. HODGETTS.—There are no fees mentioned. The members of the Live Stock Association have no fees to pay. The Dominion Live Stock Association asked the Dominion Government for a vote sufficient to pay expenses of directors and the executive to meet in between the general meetings, and the proposal is that we should do the same thing.

Mr. PEART.—The idea is to have it financed by the Dominion and Provincial governments?

Mr. HODGETTS.—The Provincial Fruit Growers' Association.

Mr. DEWAR.—Would that interfere with this conference that is called from time to time?

Mr. THOMPSON.—Could not the association call the conference if it was found necessary?

Mr. PITCAIRN.—I notice that the representation is equal from each province. I think it should be proportionate to the members that are in the province. Prince Edward Island will have equal representation with Ontario or Nova Scotia or New Brunswick. I move that the report of the committee be received.

Mr. HODGETTS.—I think it could be passed at this meeting. It means that we will have to organize at the next meeting of the Provincial Fruit Growers' Associations. I think we should adopt this now.

Mr. THOMPSON.—I move the adoption of the report.

Mr. PEART.—I will second that motion.

The CHAIRMAN.—I think you should recommend this to the provincial associations and then get them together.

Mr. TAEPAN ADNEY.—I would suggest that the Provincial Associations be asked to determine who should be members of the Dominion Associations.

Mr. PEART.—The point at the present time is to have it organized and Mr. Thompson and myself in moving and seconding the motion do so on the understanding that the promoters are able to finance it.

The CHAIRMAN.—It has been moved and seconded that the report of this committee be adopted. (Carried.)

Mr. HODGETTS.—I suggest that a committee of three be appointed to get the association going.

Mr. ROSS.—Are we to understand that this conference is done away with now?

The CHAIRMAN.—I do not know.

Mr. ROSS.—It is to be hoped we will have something better because if we do, we will have something pretty good. These conferences have been of great benefit.

Mr. THOMPSON.—It should be left in the hands of the secretaries of the different provinces to bring into force. The secretaries of the different provinces could consult with the Dominion commissioner and take all the steps that may be necessary to organize. I move that the matter of organization be left in the hands of the provincial secretaries to act in conjunction with Commissioner Ruddick.

(Motion seconded by Mr. Onslow and carried.)

Mr. DEWAR.—We ought not to go away without marking our appreciation of what the Minister of Agriculture has done for us at this conference and I move the following resolution:—

'Resolved that this third Dominion Conference of Fruit Growers does hereby return its sincere and heartfelt thanks to the Honourable Martin Burrell, Minister of Agriculture, for convening the conference, and also to Mr. J. A. Ruddick, Dairy and Cold Storage Commissioner, for presiding so efficiently over its deliberations.

(Carried with applause.)

Mr. Peart.—When I left home, I was charged with the business of trying to get the duty on American apples raised to the same level as the duty on Canadian apples entering the United States and I do not know what has become of it. (Laughter.) I have the returns from the blue books for the last five years of Canadian exports of apples to the United States, taking the last five years ending the fiscal year, March 31, 1911, and Canada exported to the United States only half the quantity of apples in value that were imported from the United States. In other words, the balance of trade in apples between Canada and the United States was against Canada in the ratio of two to one. If you take the population of the two countries, we have eight million and the United States have ninety million. They have a population eleven times that of Canada. On the basis of population, it means that every dollar spent by the Americans on Canadian apples per head, the Candians per head spend $22 on American apples. That means that the balance of trade on the basis of population is in relation of one to twenty-two. I do not know any reason why we should allow that condition to exist. The duty on Canadian apples going into the United States is 70c. a barrel, and on American apples coming into Canada 40c.

I move that the Dominion government be requested to raise the Canadian tariff on apples to 25c. per bushel.

Mr. Hamilton.—I think there are two resolutions in one there, and that we should ask that the duty on pears be put on the same level with the American tariff and if the mover will include that in his motion, I will be very glad to second it.

Mr. Peart.—I understand that the American tariff on pears is 25c. per bushel, the same as ours or within a few cents of it, therefore we do not want to touch that.

Mr. Hamilton.—I have pleasure in seconding the resolution with regard to the duty on apples.

Mr. Grierson.—I think Mr. Peart has forgotten something. He forgot to suggest in connection with the making of the duty on apples equal to that of the United States, the classification of the duty on peaches. It may just as well be taken up at this meeting because it is a very important matter. We have double duty against American peaches that they have against ours and if we are going to have equality in one, why not in the other? We might lower the duty on peaches and increase it on apples.

Although I am an apple grower, I do not think it is well to bring this matter up just now. I believe the consumers of Canada should be considered. If you raise the duty on apples to 75 cents a barrel, in all probability, the freight rates would go up and the people in the west will pay more for their apples and there will be less consumed and we will be paying a larger sum to the railway companies. I think it would do far more injury than if you left it as it is. We all know that our apples are better than the apples from the United States.

Mr. Onslow.—I would suggest in view of the government having organized the Tariff Commission to look into these matters, that it would be very wise to let this motion stand.

Mr. Burrell.—Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen: The question of the tariff is very involved. I hardly need to say that when in opposition, I went into this question thoroughly at the time of the Reciprocity Debate and I quoted a number of figures.

My recollection is that with the exception of apples, our tariff is slightly higher against the United States than their tariff is against us, but on apples there is a considerable difference, but in spite of the rather adverse tariff against the United States, they were shipping to us much larger quantities than we were shipping to them. The importation of fruit of all kinds into this country is something over seven million dollars. Something like three million dollars worth comes in under the head of citrous fruit so that the situation is a very favourable one, and I would like to say, as my friend who just sat down suggested, that the government having appointed a Tariff Commission for the express purpose of looking into all these details, this matter might be allowed to stand. We must all admit that there are certain articles that are not protected enough, and there are certain other articles protected too much, and, with an endeavour to equalize that and to arrive at something like an accurate basis, the government is doing the right thing in appointing a tariff commission, not to permanently decide the policy of the tariff, but for the purpose of making an exhaustive inquiry into the cost of production, and the kind of competition that has to be met from other countries; that will enable them to give the government a complete statement of how the tariff would affect the consumer by raising it or lowering it, and what effect it would have on competition from outside points. It is true that the measure, on account of the controversial treatment it has received in the House of Commons, has not yet passed, although I may fairly say that those who are raising objections to the Tariff Commission in the House do not dispute that such a commission must contribute a lot of valuable information. In view of the fact and in view of what I think I may say is the principle of the government, I will say unofficially, I do not think the government would undertake to pass any revision of the tariff until that Tariff Commission has done its work.

You can put any information you have before the Tariff Commission when it is appointed so as to strengthen your case, and I have no doubt it will result in what you have a right to expect; a fair arrangement of that tariff in the interest of giving you fair protection against unfair competition.

Mr. PEART.—In bringing this question before the conference, I was trying to do my duty to my fruit growing constituencies. If I had gone back without bringing this up, I do not know what would happen. In view of the fact that Mr. Burrell has made the statement that a Tariff Commission will be appointed in the near future whose duty it will be to go into the facts relating to various industries from the standpoint of cost of production and the tariff and everything else, I do not desire to press this motion.

Mr. BURRELL.—I understand you were kind enough to pass a resolution thanking me for convening the conference and also thanking Mr. Ruddick for presiding. I am sure Mr. Ruddick has already answered his part and I hope I will not be deprived of the pleasure of thanking you very heartily as I do for the passing of that resolution. It was a pleasure to me to be here to listen to your discussions and to take part. I trust you have had a satisfactory conference and that some good will result from it. I do not know what you will put before me as minister. It is quite possible we may not be able to grant all your requests, but I can assure you there will be an honest and earnest attempt on my part and the government, to make every reasonable effort to carry out your wishes.

I may not see everyone of you individually before you leave for home. If I do not, I want to express the hope that you will have a very pleasant return journey and that you have had a very pleasant stay and that you may be prosperous during the time that will elapse before we meet again.

Mr. J. A. RUDDICK.—I have not had an opportunity of replying to this kind vote of thanks. I was just about to do so when Mr. Peart introduced his motion. I desire to thank you most heartily for your kind expression. I have not had very much experience in presiding at meetings of this kind; it is somewhat different to the ordinary

agricultural convention where they have a set programme to follow. I thank you very much for the the way in which you have assisted me.

This conference has been a working one from start to finish, and the committees who sat last night as late as two o'clock deserve great credit for their industry and the way in which they have dealt with the various matters that were submitted to them.

I have made arrangements with the teachers of the Normal School to bring the students over in a body to view the exhibit of apples, and the hall will be kept open to-night in order that the citizens of Ottawa generally may have an opportunity of seeing it.

Mr. BURRELL.—I have ventured to ask His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught if he will accept a box of apples from each province, which will be duly labelled and sent to Rideau Hall, and he will then have a chance to discuss this vexed question of varieties from the different provinces. He is very glad to accept them and I know they will give him great pleasure, and I know you will be pleased to know that they are going to such a place. (Loud applause.)

Conference closed.

ADDENDA.

For the sake of clearness and convenience, all the resolutions as finally passed by the conference are printed here without the discussions which took place when they were presented.

REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON PACKAGES, &c.

RESOLUTIONS.

1. Resolved that this conference demands for domestic trade the legalization of the apple box at a capacity of 2,200 cubic inches as nearly as possible, and that the dimensions of the box be 10 by 11 by 20 inches, inside measurement.

2. Whereas discussion has brought out considerable difference of opinion as to the most suitable shapes for the various box-packges of fruit; therefore,

Be it resolved that decision on this subject be deferred in order to enable the various fruit growers' organizations to investigate thoroughly and report with recommendations to the next Dominion Fruit Conference; and be it further resolved that the conference request the Dominion Department of Agriculture to undertake the organization of the investigation.

3. Resolved that the pear box be adopted as the legal size for crab apples.

4. Resolved that the Dominion Government be requested to have the forms issued to basket manufacturers, so as to ensure uniform size of fruit baskets.

5. Resolved that the four basket plum crate, 15¾ by 15¾ by 4½ inches, inside measurement, be made legal for Canada.

6. Whereas there are two sizes of apple barrels in general use in Canada, and whereas it would appear that uniformity would be more nearly obtained by the adoption of the specified standard sizes for use in Canada, be it resolved that the conference recommend the government to provide two standards, one the 96 quart barrel commonly used in Nova Scotia, and the other the 112 quart barrel commonly used in Ontario, and that the department provide for the enforcement of the use, by all growers and dealers, of one or the other of these standards, and that the manufacturers be held responsible.

REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AMENDMENTS TO PART IX OF THE INSPECTION AND SALE ACT.

RESOLUTIONS.

1. Resolved that we urge upon the Minister of Agriculture the greatest care in securing competent inspectors, and to this end suggest that the advice of a commission of three fruit growers or dealers from each fruit growing province would be found of valuable assistance in securing suitable men for appointment as inspectors.

2. Resolved that sufficient inspection at point of entry in connection with imported deciduous fruits be made, so as to ensure it being marketed under the conditions of the Sale and Inspection Act.

3. Resolved that the Minister of Agriculture cause investigation to be made as to the possibility of giving to applicants, on payment of a reasonable charge, a certificate of the results of any inspection made.

4. Resolved that when an inspector has examined a closed package of fruit, it be stamped 'Inspected by No. —.'

5. Resolved that the Fruit Marks Act be so amended as to make it compulsory to mark, on the outside of the box, the number of apples contained therein.

6. Resolved that this conference recommend that the Department of Agriculture divide the fruit growing provinces into suitable districts, with a permanent and capable fruit inspector and instructor in each district, so as to ensure, to the greatest possible extent, inspection at the point of shipment.

Resolved that section 321, clauses 2 and 3, of the Inspection and Sale Act, be amended in such a way that the minimum size of apples packed in barrels be as follows:—

For Fameuse, 2⅜ inches for No. 1, and 2 inches for No. 2.

For Golden Russets and kindred sized varieties, 2⅜ inches for No. 1 and 2¼ for No. 2.

For Kings, Blenheims, Wolf River and kindred sized varieties, 2¼ inches for No. 1 and 2¼ inches for No. 2.

And that where a packer of apples in barrels desires to establish a higher minimum standard for a portion or all of his pack, he may do so by stamping or stencilling on the face end of the barrel the minimum diameter in inches and fractions thereof, and that the diameter so marked shall be the minimum standard of size for such barrel.

REPORT OF THE RESOLUTION COMMITTEE.

RESOLUTIONS.

1. Resolved that this Third Conference of the fruit growers of Canada would suggest to the Honourable the Minister of Agriculture for the Dominion to keep in view the fact that the fruit interests of Canada are now of sufficient importance to warrant the placing of a fruit division of the Dominion Department of Agriculture on the same basis as that of the Seed and Live Stock Branches, with a commissioner appointed in charge.

2. Resolved that the government have daily market prices cabled from their commercial agents in Europe, published in the daily papers of all provinces in the Dominion during the shipping season.

3. Resolved that in the opinion of this conference one of the first duties of the Directors of the National Fruit Growers' Association would be to appoint a Transportation Committee of three members to look after the interests of the fruit growers, and that the committee shall have power to appoint an expert transportation agent to investigate claims and rates with the railway, express and steamship companies, cars and other equipment for the proper carrying of fruit and to prepare cases from time to time for submission to the Dominion Railway Board.

4. Resolved that the Dominion government be asked to appropriate ten thousand dollars ($10,000) towards the expenses of the next Canadian National Apple Show, provided that at least twenty thousand dollars ($20,000) is offered in premiums by the promoters.

5. Resolved that the Dominion Department of Agriculture be asked to enquire into such legislation as will permit the formation of co-operative fruit societies in any part of the Dominion of Canada upon the same lines as have been found so successful in the older countries.

6. Resolved that this Third Dominion Conference of Fruit Growers does hereby return its sincere and heartfelt thanks to the Hon. Martin Burrell, Minister of Agriculture, for convening the conference, and also to Mr. J. A. Ruddick, Dairy and Cold Storage Commissioner, for presiding so efficiently over its deliberations.

7. Resolved that the sympathy of this conference be tendered to the family of the late Mrs. Annie L. Jack of Chateauguay Basin, Quebec, in the great loss sustained by them through her sudden death, and also to put on record our appreciation of the services rendered by her in the interests of horticulture in Canada.